



PROGRESS REPORT 2013

RAPID SOCIAL RESPONSE PROGRAM



THE WORLD BANK

The RSR is a multi-donor program that was established in 2009 to help the world's poorest countries, in partnership with the World Bank, build effective social protection systems. RSR is one of the key instruments for implementing the World Bank's Social Protection and Labor Strategy for Resilience, Equity and Opportunity in IDA-eligible countries. It has been generously supported by the Russian Federation, Norway, the United Kingdom, Australia and Sweden.



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The RSR management team expresses its deep appreciation to the Governments of the Russian Federation, Norway, the United Kingdom, Australia and Sweden for their generous support to RSR and to all government counterparts who are working with RSR and the World Bank to advance the social protection and labor agenda in the world.

This report was authored by Hideki Mori, Kerstin Stewart, Sophie Warlop, and Inas Ellaham. The team is grateful for comments and inputs received from donor representatives and colleagues of the World Bank Human Development Network, especially the task team leaders who are managing the RSR activities.

Special thanks also are expressed to Mr. Andrei Bokarev, Director, Department of International Financial Relations, Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation, Ms. Harriet Solheim, Special Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway, Ms. Isabelle Cardinal, Senior Policy Advisor, DfID/UK, Ms. Paba Siriwardana, Senior Policy Officer, AusAID/Australia, Mr. Torsten Wetterblad, Senior Policy Adviser, and Mr Kaviraj Appadu, Senior Policy Specialist, SIDA/Sweden, for their valuable support and guidance.

Finally, the team would like to thank Mr. Arup Banerji, Director, Social Protection and Labor Practice, and Mr. Andrei Markov, Senior Partnership Specialist, Office of Global Partnership and Trust Fund Operations of the World Bank, for their extremely useful guidance.



RSR Chronology of Events, July 2009 to June 2013



Reporting on Progress from Inception in 2009 to Date, and the Plan for RSR in the Coming Years

Social Protection and Labor Systems: The New Frontier

In the past decade, the world has seen a rapid succession of crises resulting from rising food and fuel prices, a breakdown of global financial systems, a changing climate and pressure on natural resources. In low income countries (LICs), these crises quickly translate into increased food insecurity, unemployment, and poor health and education outcomes. Faced with unprecedented challenges, LICs especially must find affordable and efficient ways to protect their human capital.

A social protection and labor (SPL) system, for an increasing number of governments, is a means to protect the poor and vulnerable from shocks and reduce poverty, while enabling a reasonable level of risk-taking to explore a path out of poverty. However, half of the world's poorest quintile still lacks any form of social protection coverage, a figure that rises to 63 percent in South Asia and 82 percent in Sub-Saharan Africa.¹

Where the needs are greatest, the capacity to build SPL systems is also poor. Among the LICs with existing SPL systems, most social safety net programs² are too small to be effective, and the absence of adequate operating platforms precludes scale up. Lack of resources and lack of capacity to execute resources make for continued under-investment and perpetuate small, ad-hoc programs, which only operate in crisis mode.

But if the backdrop is gloomy, the outlook is brighter: Over the last ten years, the interest and activity in social protection has experienced a paradigm shift, with at-scale safety net programs expanding at a rate of two countries per year. Today, safety nets programs are being built on a national scale in 98 countries, up from just 72 in 2000. With the growing interest comes a willingness to improve capacity and allocate resources for social protection. Since 2009, 13 IDA³-eligible countries with limited or no previous engagement with the World Bank on social protection have received financing for safety net expansion (12 being in Africa). And, in the current fiscal year (2013),⁴ new IDA commitments to safety nets have almost equaled those of IBRD for the first time in history.



RSR: A Nimble Facility in a Fast-Moving World

The Food, Fuel and Financial Crisis of 2008-2010 created a unique set of dilemmas for the world, and the World Bank responded by creating the Vulnerability Financing Facility (VFF), a framework to streamline crisis support. As a second umbrella to the VFF, alongside the Global Food Crises Response Program, RSR was “designed to assist countries to address the urgent social needs stemming from the crisis and build up capacity and institutions to better respond to future crises.”⁵

RSR provides catalytic resources in relatively small amounts: For a single, bank-executed project, the funding size ranges between US\$ 250,000 and US\$ 450,000. For a single recipient-executed project, the maximum funding size is US\$ 1,500,000.⁶

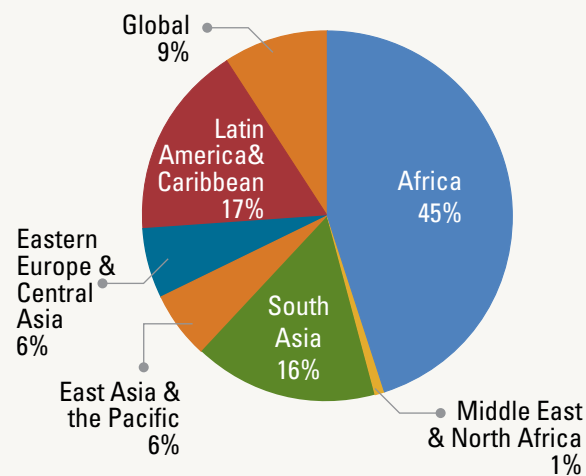
Three years into its existence, RSR has helped to expand social protection coverage in low income countries and fragile states. Its support has been critical in key aspects, such as, building beneficiary registries, creating identification systems, developing poverty targeting mechanisms, innovating payment mechanisms, and monitoring and evaluating for results. RSR also contributed to the SPL agenda as a whole, either through supporting the dialogue in its nascent stage, through country-specific crisis response or by sharing knowledge between regions, countries and globally. All of which have helped to improve medium- to long-term efficiencies and catalyze resources, most notably through IDA.

RSR’s contribution to the social protection agenda in LICs was emphasized in two Ministerial Round Tables on the theme “Closing the Gap, Safety Nets Where the Needs Are Greatest.” They were held in connection with the Spring Meetings of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund in 2012 and 2013, where high-level representatives of Member States expressed strong endorsement and appreciation to RSR.

In the fall of 2012, the donors approved a five-year extension of RSR from June 2013 to June 2018. The decision of Australia and Sweden to join the existing group of donors (the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom and Norway) further enforced RSR’s role in and ability to accompany the first five years of the World Bank’s new Social Protection and Labor Strategy for Resilience, Equity and Opportunity as one of the key instrument to facilitate (or catalyze) the implementation.

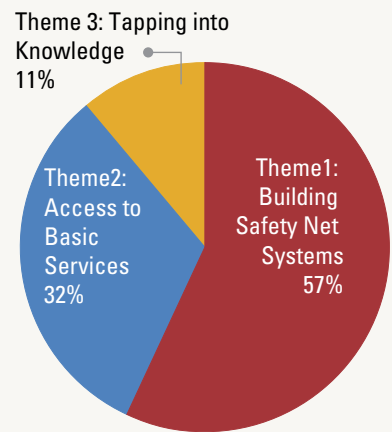
This time around, as countries move out of crisis mode, the focus of RSR has shifted from crisis response and stand-alone activities to supporting the agenda of SPL system building—building affordable and scalable systems that can sustain resilience for the long term. As this is written, a new portfolio for RSR is taking shape—one enabling RSR to have an even more profound impact on the larger global good in the social protection and labor arena.

Figure 1: Resource Allocation by Region, as of April 2013



Source: RSR Management Team/World Bank (2013).
Note: Excludes Program Management grant.

Figure 2: Resource Allocation by Theme, As of April 2013



Source: RSR Management Team/World Bank (2013).
Note: Allocations do not include program management.

Table 1: Some Key Facts about RSR: The Initial Years

Operational since	2009
Initial resource envelope	US \$61.7 million
Initial donors*	Russian Federation, Norway, UK
Number of countries assisted	40
Number of projects	80
Average size of projects	US \$685,000
Largest project	US \$3.2 million
Region that receives largest share of resources	Africa (45%)
Number of RSR-Projects formally associated with IDA operations	45
Aggregate amount of RSR-funding associated with IDA	US \$ 34.3 million
Associated IDA financing	US \$ 3.1 billion

Key Facts about RSR 2009–March 2013

*Australia and Sweden joined RSR in 2012, and their contributions will be programmed to support activities commencing in 2013 and onwards

Reflecting on Three Years of RSR Progress

RSR had a busy and productive initiation into social protection and labor activities. It first delineated three broad categories for support: Building Safety Net Systems (Theme 1), Protecting Access to Basic Services in Times of Crisis (Theme 2) and Tapping Into Knowledge to Share Lessons and Create Toolkits (Theme 3). RSR then, from 2009 to 2012, issued four calls for proposals and supported 80 activities in 40 countries (see Figures 1 and 2).⁷

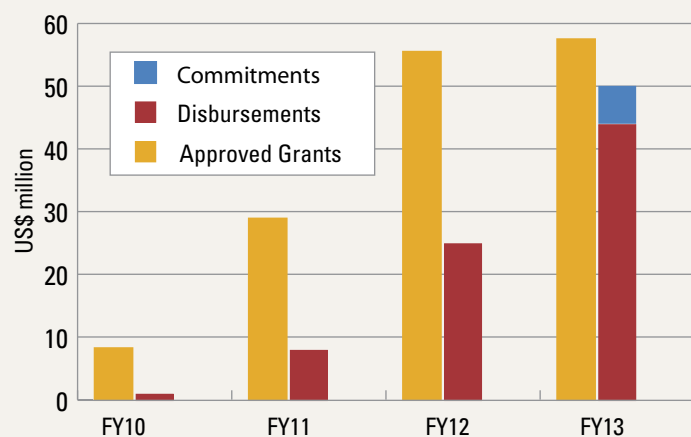
In terms of the breakdown, much of this support applied to strategic investment in analytical—and design work. 57 percent of RSR's resources and 44 out of 80 activities were awarded to Theme 1. The work in this category consisted largely of country-specific technical assistance or analytical work; a few activities assisted a group of countries under the same project umbrella. (See the case study on cash transfer activities in Africa on page 15.)

The funding base for the RSR operations during the first three years was US\$61.7 million contributed by the Russian Federation (US\$ 50 million), Norway (US\$ 8.5 million) and the United Kingdom (US\$ 3.2 million). Throughout the four rounds of competitive project selection, demand for funding was consistently strong—nearly three-fold the available resources—and implementation has kept pace with the planned schedule (see Figure 3).

Sixty-one (61) percent of the projects in the portfolio were closed as of April 30, 2013, and most accomplished their stated objectives. Nevertheless, throughout the cycle 2009–2012 some projects had to be cancelled due to political instability and change of priorities in the country, including technical assistance to Nicaragua and a safety net pilot in Yemen. In the fiscal year of 2012,



Figure 3: RSR Cumulative Approval, Disbursement and Commitment, Fiscal Years 2010–2013 (US\$ million)



Source: RSR Management Team / World Bank (2013).

Note: In World Bank terminology, disbursements mean actual expenditures, such as, payments made for goods, works and services delivered. Disbursements take place only after goods are delivered; work is certified as satisfactory; invoices are submitted to the implementing agency for review; and payment is requested from the trust fund account. On the other hand, commitments are contractual obligations to provide funds for services to be provided, work to be done and goods to be delivered. Thus, disbursements occur as the last step of implementation and are an indicator of a project's progress.

activities were cancelled in Congo and partially in Afghanistan and Tanzania due to implementation delays. (Please refer to the List of Activities on page 60.)

In the midst of this period, the Independent Evaluation Group (IEG) published an evaluation of the last ten years of World Bank support to safety nets (i.e., cash transfers and other non-contributory social assistance).⁸ This report noted that, RSR had played an important role in increasing World Bank engagement with LICs, raising LIC interest in social protection and focusing both governments and the Bank on the need for institutional strengthening and system building rather than on the design and implementation of stand-alone projects.

RSR and IDA 2009–2013

In three short years, RSR has become an important player in the recent “IDA revolution” for social protection and labor (SPL) systems and safety net (SN) programs. With its rapid disbursement to operations that need specific interventions, the relatively small funds provided by RSR help to catalyze sizeable resources and often have transformative impacts.

By March 31, 2013, US\$ 34.3 million worth of RSR projects have supported and/or catalyzed US\$ 3.1 billion worth of IDA resources for 45 IDA projects in 34 countries. At present, 45 out of the 80 activities in the RSR portfolio are associated with IDA. (See page 68 for a complete list.)

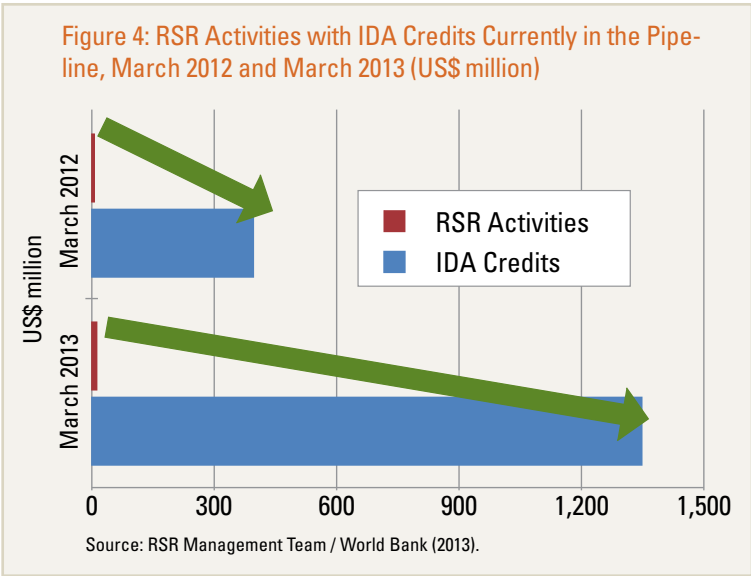
RSR activities can be associated with a full-scale IDA project in three ways: (i) The IDA project did not exist in any form prior to the approval of the RSR project; (ii) the IDA project was in the pipeline prior to approval of the RSR project; and (iii) the IDA project was already under implementation when the RSR project was approved.

In the first way, where the IDA project does not exist in any form prior to the approval of the RSR project, RSR typically funds the necessary expertise to spur dialogue, pilot new concepts and carry out the necessary analytical work to make the case for SPL system building and put the IDA project in the pipeline. As shown in Figure 4 below, in one year, as many RSR projects designed to support the IDA pipeline were completed, this association, expressed as a ratio, increased by 38 percentage points.

In Mozambique, an RSR grant worth US\$ 2.155 million helped to identify and prepare the country’s first IDA-supported US\$ 50 million Social Protection Project, which will strengthen institutions and strategy, and supported the nation-wide expansion of a public works program. Similarly, Cameroon’s first RSR-triggered Safety Net Project (US\$ 550,000) helped find viable options to scale up a pilot initiative into a sustainable nationwide system (US\$ 50 million in IDA resources). Read more about these activities on page 33 and 19 respectively. In Haiti, RSR played a key role in putting a US\$ 50 million project (Improving Maternal and Child Health through Integrated Social Services) in the IDA pipeline by successfully piloting the innovative concept of Household Development Agents using US\$ 1.8 million in RSR resources. The project also introduced a management information system,

which will not only help municipalities manage data for improved service delivery but also better the coordination between the many development organizations in country.

In the second way, where the IDA project was in the pipeline, the RSR activity has explicit objectives to support the preparation. It is the World Bank’s experience that governments are reluctant to borrow money for program design and that grant financing can help to improve existing systems and develop new programs. In Rwanda, the RSR grant of just over US\$ 2 million helped expand a pilot in a fiscally prudent fashion from reaching less than 10,000 people in 2008 to over half a million in 2012 under three IDA operations worth US\$ 96 million (see page 39). In similar fashion, a US\$ 173,000 grant to Djibouti provided the requisite technical support to build the first social protection program in the country, one that combines public works with support to



nutrition practices, worth US\$ 5 million in IDA resources (see page 21). And, Togo elaborated its first national social protection policy worth US\$ 9 million in IDA resources based on the analytical work and capacity-building activities that RSR financed with US\$ 592,000 (see page 41).

The third way applies to countries where an IDA operation is already under preparation and RSR was added to enhance the effectiveness of the project. In Honduras, where the IDA operation was already under way, RSR provided broad support (US\$ 1.27 million) to the SPL agenda through technical support to the country's largest cash transfer program, Bono 10,000, and enhanced delivery of the Nutrition Services Program through improved data management to a combined value of US\$ 64 million. (See the case study on page 27.) Other examples of RSR's role in enhancing the quality of existing operations include Ethiopia, Liberia and Pakistan on page 23, 31 and 35 respectively.

RSR as a Vehicle to Build Resilience, Equity and Opportunity

Cross-sectoral in nature, RSR has been well positioned to arch over the different priority areas of the World Bank's Social Protection and Labor Strategy for Resilience, Equity and Opportunity and provide operational direction to different instruments, in support of these goals.

RSR and Gender

Well-designed and implemented social protection programs can provide a pathway out of poverty for families and communities, and address gender inequalities at the same time. A public works intervention that gives a woman the opportunity to earn extra predictable income during the lean season can make all the difference to her and her family's food security as well as health outcomes, especially in female-headed households. A conditional cash transfer program requiring beneficiaries to ensure their girls' school attendance has the potential of making a significant difference not just for the girls and their family's well-being, but also for the country's growth as a whole because girls who finish school have more opportunities in life and give birth to healthier babies.

These gender dimensions of social protection are deeply embedded in RSR activities: they strengthen policies and program design affecting women through nutrition activities, early childhood interventions, improve access to cash-transfer programs and female labor force participation.

RSR has helped to build the capacity of ministries and implementing agencies to apply a gender lens to the design and implementation of social protection. This includes introducing technology solutions for beneficiary identification as an ID-card is often a prerequisite for a citizen's access to any form of social services. Another example of the gender lens is in Pakistan, where financial literacy training specifically targeted the female beneficiaries of one of the largest cash transfer programs in the country. A training module built with RSR support coached over 800,000 extremely poor women on the use of debit cards and banking services (see page 35).

Most of the public works projects developed or enhanced through RSR support are helping countries to develop policies that facilitate the participation of women through activities suitable for women with children. In Mozambique, for example, the RSR-supported pilot project tested criteria for selecting beneficiaries, determining the level of transfers and ascertaining the types of eligible public works. The pilot was taken to scale in an IDA project and women constitute 50 % of the beneficiaries of the public workdays (see page 33).

Following the devastating earthquake of 2010 in Haiti, RSR's emergency window supported victims of gender-based violence by improving access to health and counseling services. RSR also helped to build the institutional capacity to provide care for those affected, while at the same time contributing to the enhancement of civic participation and progress towards legal reforms. Please refer to page 57 for the full story.

RSR and Nutrition

Poverty rose by 100–200 million people worldwide during the 2008–2010 Food, Fuel and Financial Crisis; simulations show that in the first year alone, the under-nourished in the world increased by 63 million, adding to the 923 million who were already under-nourished in 2007.⁹ In 2011, more

than a quarter (26 percent) of children under five were stunted—roughly 165 million children worldwide.¹⁰ These staggering numbers each represent an individual, in most cases a child under five whose calorie and micro-nutrient intake does not add up to what he or she needs on a daily basis to have the energy to play and learn, let alone grow and develop. More than likely, this child will suffer permanent physical and cognitive damage, thereby affecting his or her future health and ability to actively participate in the workforce and civil society.

Nutrition is at core of safety nets, as nutrition support is delivered either as part of in-kind transfers or training to beneficiaries of cash transfers. When the reality of the Food, Fuel and Financial Crisis struck, RSR dispersed funds for 15 activities specifically designed to improve the delivery of nutrition services. These activities addressed nutrition either as part of a conditionality attached to a cash transfer pilot, through specific interventions to improve management information systems or by supporting policy dialogue or knowledge products to build capacity.

The case study on page 23 tells about the RSR intervention in Ethiopia that strengthened a management information system for nutrition. RSR facilitated the flow of information between the local data collection sites and the Ministry of Health's regional bureau, where the planning for nutrition interventions now takes place in close coordination with the Ministry of Agriculture, courtesy of the system that RSR helped to develop. In Djibouti, the RSR activity supporting a larger IDA operation made an innovative link between public works and nutrition. (See the case study on page 21.) In Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC), a toolkit and a South-South learning event brought policy-makers' attention to an inequality issue masked by positive growth figures that had turned into a desperate under five nutrition problem in poor pockets of many LAC countries. (See page 45.)

As nutrition continues to be a major concern for low income and emerging countries, RSR will continue to help build system platforms where nutrition and social protection intersect.

RSR and Youth Employment

For most young people in the world today, and especially young Africans, entering the job market is marked by periods of unemployment fraught with frustration and tensions. One reason is demographics: Many LICs are experiencing a "youth bulge," which the already tight labor markets cannot absorb. Regardless of where young people end up working—the formal or informal sector—the urgency of building up non-cognitive skills to increase productivity is receiving growing recognition across Africa in particular and worldwide in general. RSR supported several activities to guide the policy dialogue and develop programs in support of opportunities for youth.

In Africa, RSR built an evidence base and a framework for engagement that helped to raise the profile of the Youth Employment issue in Burkina Faso, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya and Sierra Leone. In Papua New Guinea, RSR strengthened the government's capacity to implement and evaluate the impacts of an IDA project that aims to increase the aspirations and future earnings of 17,500 urban

disadvantaged youth (see page 37), and an RSR grant in Liberia provided targeting support to make sure that a project aiming at creating 100,000 new jobs over five years effectively reaches the youth most in need (see page 31).

RSR and South-South Learning, Communities of Practice

South-South learning (SSL) is the sharing of knowledge, experience and expertise between governments, organizations and individuals in low and middle income countries. It recently has gained momentum as governments have come to recognize SPL system building as prudent investments and are now looking for the "how to."

RSR moved quickly to identify SSL entry points and acted as a convener for four SSL events. In 2010, policy-makers and practitioners gathered in Arusha,



Tanzania to exchange knowledge and build networks around public works. A year later in 2011, a group convened in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on the subject of safety nets in low income countries and fragile states. In 2012, RSR funded a forum in Bangalore, India that focused on the information and communication technology aspects of implementing social protection programs. Finally, also in 2012, a flagship event brought 230 participants from 66 countries together in Hyderabad, India, to discuss the role of labor and social assistance policies.

Out of these RSR-supported forums grew communities of practice—a collaborative space where people share and exchange knowledge on a particular subject. Professionals from a variety of disciplines and geographic areas now convene in online spaces, such as, video conferencing and blogs, and in face-to-face meetings. Please refer to page 47 for a full chapter on RSR and South-South learning exchange.

The Next Phase of RSR: From Crises Response to a Systems Approach

Themes and Resource Allocation

As mentioned in the introduction to this report, many countries are creating new programs, expanding and harmonizing existing ones, and improving administrative systems to modernize governance and improve efficiencies, and many more have plans to do so.¹⁰ Consequently, Phase 2 of RSR is capitalizing on an unparalleled opportunity to improve social protection through the investments in systems and knowledge. In keeping step with these events, RSR has slightly modified its three themes and their respective allocations.

Theme 1: Support to New and Improved Social Protection and Labor Systems.

The new or improved SPL system components and architecture under Theme 1 are produced primarily through country-specific technical assistance or analytical work. Considering the size of RSR activities (about US\$ 400,000 on average during the first three years), it is unlikely that a single activity would build a comprehensive SPL system in any country. However, as discussed above, larger resources have been mobilized from IDA to complete the system-building work initiated by an RSR activity and subsequently to operate the system to expand SPL coverage.

In the outset years, 57 percent of RSR resources were allocated to Theme 1. The percentage is projected to rise in the coming years because the share of Theme 3 (previously theme 2, see below) is expected to decline as the focus shifts away from emergency response to system building.

Theme 2: Increased Learning and Knowledge-sharing for Social Protection Service Delivery.

Theme 2, equivalent to Theme 3 during the first three years of RSR, complements Theme 1 and has a direct transformational impact. It increases the impact of safety nets through South-South learning events, communities of practice, toolkits and specialized training. It has been reported that participants in South-South learning often request technical assistance projects for what would fall under RSR's Theme 1. The share of this theme is estimated to be about 15 percent of total project funding during the coming years.

Theme 3: Protecting Access to Basic Services for the Most Vulnerable in Times of Crisis.

This is RSR's emergency window, equivalent to Theme 2 during the initial phase of RSR. It opens quickly to prevent irreversible harm to the most vulnerable populations during a crisis. Activities have included the provision of nutrition benefits, particularly for children under three and pregnant and nursing mothers, cash transfers or waivers for school fees and health costs. In addition, projects under this theme may finance administrative support needed for preparation and implementation.

RSR is designed to be capable of rapidly expanding its support under Theme 3 by receiving additional contributions from donors. Once the resources are made available, committing them to emergency operations can be done in as little time as two months. During the initial three

years, RSR allocated 35 percent of its available resources to Theme 3; however, if there is no severe crisis on par with the Food, Fuel and Financial Crisis in the next few years, Theme 3 will be small (currently estimated as 15 percent or less).

Operational Overview

RSR has a governance and management structure consisting of four entities. The first entity, the RSR program steering committee, composed of World Bank vice-presidents and chaired by a World Bank managing director, defines and directs the RSR program in a broad context and sets the resource allocation strategy. It also approves overall program priorities based on inputs provided by the RSR program management team.

The second entity, the RSR program consultative group, comprising the RSR donors and World Bank subject specialists, provides overall strategic direction, guidance and advice for RSR within the parameters established for the program. The consultative group meets once a year and reviews the RSR work program performance and progress.

The third, the RSR program management committee comprises the Human Development Network management team, more specifically the Human Development Network council (HD council), as headed by the Human Development Network vice president and comprising 13 directors across the World Bank. The management committee makes daily decisions regarding operations, including approval of funding proposals.

Finally, the RSR program management team supports the daily operations of RSR programs, including the administration of trust fund resources. The program management team, among other things, reviews all proposals for RSR funding for relevance to RSR objectives and adherence to eligibility criteria. Quality assurance of the funded activities, however, is the responsibility of the relevant sector units within the regional vice-presidencies.

Funding Proposals: Submission, Evaluation and Approval

Funding proposals (called EoI—expression of interest) are required to be submitted by trust fund-accredited World Bank staff members on behalf of the beneficiary country and cleared by their immediate line managers prior to submission. Once received, proposals are reviewed and scored by lead/senior-level subject specialists, using 20 criteria ranging from 5 (most favorable) to 1 (least favorable). Scores are tabulated and proposals are ranked based on the average total scores. Proposals with the highest average scores are forwarded to the RSR management committee for review and approval or rejection (see Figure 5). The criteria to evaluate and approve proposals include both technical and operational aspects to determine suitability.

Reflecting the demand-driven and results-oriented nature of RSR, one of the most important criteria for evaluating RSR funding proposals is the project’s ability to be implemented. This quality, by definition, requires strong client ownership even for relatively small-scale technical assistance activities. To ensure the proposal’s consistency with the World Bank’s overall strategy to assist its clients, the applicable World Bank country director’s office is consulted from a very early stage of concept development. Other key evaluation criteria are the cost–benefit consideration, strong theory of change, and solid monitoring and evaluation arrangements to ensure that the activity, if approved for funding, will generate concrete results. In turn, this will contribute significantly to strengthening the country’s system for social protection.

Figure 5: Proposal Review and Funding Mechanism



Operational Procedures

RSR's operational procedures have very few program-specific requirements and rely on the World Bank's existing quality assurance and fiduciary control mechanisms. RSR activities follow the Bank's rigorous standard operational policies and procedures. Bank-executed knowledge services, technical assistance (TA), Economic Sector Work (ESW) and Knowledge Products (KP) follow the same strict review process that all non-RSR-funded projects are required to follow—each step of the way—including the concept stage, output and endorsement stage, outreach and completion stage with peer review and decision reviews chaired by the respective country director. External Training (TE), such as, South-South forums, also include the concept stage, delivery of learning/knowledge sharing activity and completion stage (see Table 2).

Table 2: RSR / World Bank Knowledge Services

Economic & Sector Work (ESW)	Involves original analytic effort; intended to influence policies and/or programs
Technical Assistance (TA)	Enables clients to implement reforms or strengthen institutions
External Training (TE)	Design and delivery of events focusing on awareness-raising/skills enhancement
Knowledge Products (KP)	Supports operations through production, retention and dissemination of knowledge
Global Monitoring	Provides data and tools for policy-makers, academics and civil society organizations

Source: World Bank (2013).

Recipient-executed projects follow the streamlined procedures and policies established for Small Recipient-Executed Trust Funds (RETF), with standardized templates complemented by a risk-based approach. The RETFs go through identification, concept review, appraisal, approval and implementation stages and must include economic, procurement, financial management, safeguards assessments, fiduciary assessments as well as a results framework. Following the newly approved procedures for the processing of Small Grants, all RETFs follow the rigorous processes as enumerated in Figure 6.

Also of note, RETF grants that are used to co-finance an investment operation and that are prepared alongside the operation are processed jointly with the IDA credit.

The World Bank's operational procedures have been devised to maintain both quality assurance and responsiveness. The RSR procedures are designed as an add-on for speedy processing of grant proposals to allow expertise to be deployed quickly.

RSR and SPL: Stories Worth Telling

RSR's three-year involvement in SPL interventions in over 40 countries, often as a pioneer funding mechanism for social protection, means that there are stories to tell and results to share—ones that benefit the broad SPL community. Regular briefs from the field, outlining the challenges, approaches and results associated with RSR activities are sent to the donors and interested parties. The activity briefs, along with associated news and RSR-funded knowledge products, also are posted on the RSR website (www.worldbank.org/rsr) to create a rich library for subject specialists. In 2012–13, a "Project Brief" series replaced the earlier "Story" series. Twenty-two new activity briefs were added to the 11 stories produced in 2011–2012.

Figure 6: RETF Approval Process



Source: World Bank (2013).

Learning Lessons, Demonstrating Impact

RSR's Results Framework

When RSR was created on the heels of the crises in 2009, it was an effort to quickly respond to and foster operation building for social protection, and with a license to think outside the box and take necessary risks. Until now, RSR's ability to trigger IDA has served as an appropriate proxy to demonstrate impact of this endeavor. As RSR embarks on a new phase, with a shift in focus from rapid response to system building, an explicit definition of results has become a requisite. A results framework, agreed among all donors and the World Bank, will provide RSR with a clear sight on its primary objectives, a structure to measure RSR's impact on the poor and vulnerable and a guiding principle to manage the RSR portfolio. Thus, the results architecture for RSR is currently under development by the World Bank's team of social protection and labor experts in consultation with donor representatives.

In complement, an impact evaluation is planned for 2017, approximately a year before the new RSR closing date on June 30, 2018, as part of the mid-term review of the World Bank's Social Protection and Labor Strategy 2012–2022.

Building the Evidence Base through SPARCS and ASPIRE

RSR is an integral part of the larger SPL system-building agenda for the World Bank and its development partners. An essential building block of systems is the evidence-base, the baseline against which results can be measured. What are countries' actual needs? What is the current coverage? How many women participate in safety net programs? In the coming phase, RSR will support an effort to operationalize and monitor the central focus on building SPL systems, as outlined in the World Bank's Social Protection and Labor Strategy 2012–2022. This responds to a multi-agency endeavor, requested by the Social Protection Inter-Agency Cooperation Board (SPIAC-B),¹¹ to improve the statistics and evidence base around social protection. Today, this baseline is fragmented, inconsistent and insufficiently detailed to be used in policy-making.

Two analytical frameworks to this effect are currently under development: ASPIRE (Atlas of Social Protection: Indicators of Resilience and Equity) and SPARCS (Social Protection Assessment of Results and Country Systems). ASPIRE aims at creating comprehensive and harmonized indicators on SPL outcomes. SPARCS endeavors to develop common instruments to assess SPL system attributes (architecture, performance and input/output) in order to help develop and strengthen SPL systems through structured benchmarking. Both ASPIRE and SPARCS, as far as IDA-eligible countries are concerned, are expected to function as an integrated part of the RSR results framework.

¹ World Bank's Social Protection Atlas (www.worldbank.org/sp).

² Social safety nets are sub-systems of social protection and labor systems. Safety net interventions range from cash transfers to labor-intensive public works to school feeding programs.

³ World Bank member countries are delineated into two categories: International Development Association (IDA) for low income countries and fragile states and International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) for middle income countries.

⁴ The World Bank fiscal year spans from July 1 to June 30.

⁵ <http://www.worldbank.org/financialcrisis/pdf/WBGResponse-VFF.pdf>

⁶ Under the latest round (5th) of calls for proposals.

⁷ As of 2013, the themes of RSR and their relative resource allocation were slightly modified. Please refer to page 11 for the new themes.

⁸ Independent Evaluation Group (2011). Social Safety Nets: An Evaluation of World Bank Support, 2000-2010. Washington DC: World Bank.

⁹ Independent Evaluation Group (2012). The World Bank Group and the Global Food Crisis, An Evaluation of the World Bank Group Response. Washington DC: World Bank.

¹⁰ UNICEF (2013). Improving Child Nutrition, The Achievable Imperative for Global Progress. New York: United Nations Children's Fund.

¹¹ World Bank (2012). Safety Nets Work: During Crisis and Prosperity. Development Committee Paper. Washington DC.

RSR — Three Ways of Building Resilience, Equity and Opportunity

Support to New and Improved Social Protection and Labor Systems

Coordinated social protection and labor systems bolster people and help economies grow. RSR helps to build critical parts of such systems through policy dialogue and technical assistance, and by providing the analytical work that helps the systems run efficiently and cost-effectively. RSR projects mobilize larger resources from IDA as well as other sources to complete the system-building work, and helps governments operate the systems to expand social protection coverage.

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Increased Learning and Knowledge for Social Protection Service Delivery

RSR raises awareness on how to increase coverage of social protection in low income countries through South-South learning initiatives and the development of communities of practice. RSR also helps to create new diagnostic techniques that can benefit individual countries or have a global impact on social safety net systems and poor people’s access to basic services.

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Protecting Access to Basic Services to the Most Vulnerable in Times of Crisis

As crises hit and threaten livelihoods and human capital, RSR’s emergency window for limited-scale delivery of SPL benefits and services can be opened to prevent irreversible harm to the most vulnerable populations. RSR projects help to provide nutrition benefits, particularly to young children and their mothers, waivers for school fees and health services, and the required administrative support for efficient service delivery.

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THEME 1: Support to New and Improved Social Protection and Labor Systems

Coordinated social protection and labor systems bolster people and help economies grow. RSR helps to build critical parts of such systems through policy dialogue and technical assistance, and by providing the analytical work that helps the systems run efficiently and cost-effectively. RSR projects mobilize larger resources from IDA as well as other sources to complete the system-building work, and helps governments operate the systems to expand social protection coverage.



Africa	Making Safety Nets More Efficient
Bangladesh	Revamping Safety Nets for Better Protection, Nutrition and Education
Cameroon	Streamlining Programs, Gaining Efficiencies: A New SPL system in the Making
Djibouti	Boosting Household Incomes and Improving Nutrition
Ethiopia	Strengthening the Early Warning System for Malnutrition
Guinea	Helping to Cast Safety Nets Wider
Honduras	Delivering Stronger Protection and Faster Nutrition Response
Kenya	Laying the Groundwork for Social Policy Reform
Liberia	Providing Protection and Opportunities for the Vulnerable Youth
Mozambique	Developing Building Blocks for Social Protection through Public Works
Pakistan	Financial Literacy, the Path to Inclusion and Graduation
Papua New Guinea	Towards Evidence-Based Policy-Making on Youth Employment
Rwanda	Supporting the Expansion of Social Protection
Togo	First Steps towards a Consolidated Safety Net System



RAPID SOCIAL RESPONSE



AFRICA

SUPPORT TO NEW AND IMPROVED SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LABOR SYSTEMS



RSR Funding:

US\$ 391,874

Associated IDA Projects:

Benin Decentralized Community-Driven Services Project (US\$ 46 million),
Tanzania Productive Social Safety Net Project (US\$ 220 million),
Mali Emergency Safety Nets Project (US\$ 70 million),
Zambia Productive Safety Nets (US\$ 150 million)

Partners:

DFID, UNICEF

MAKING SAFETY NETS MORE EFFICIENT

Safety nets are growing in Africa as a means of buffering against economic shocks and providing a ladder out of poverty. RSR has helped six countries review their nascent safety net programs to ensure that the schemes are effective, affordable and anchored in policy frameworks for better coordination, continuity and wider reach.

CHALLENGE

When the dry season arrives or crises hit, the primary response in many African countries often comes in the form of public works and school feeding programs. These types of programs can help those who are productive and in school, but they fail to address the needs of those most at risk, such as, young children, out-of-school children and adults who are unable to work.

To reach and improve the lives of the most vulnerable, many African countries are in the process of piloting or launching cash transfer programs. These regular and predictable transfers of small sums of money increase the access to and utilization of health care and education, improve children's nutrition and smooth households' consumption.

APPROACH

With support from RSR, task teams from the World Bank have helped review ongoing and planned safety net programs, including cash transfer programs, in six countries. Recommendations have been developed on how these programs can best be implemented as part of national protection strategies and more efficiently support the extreme poor. Some countries, such as, Mali and Tanzania, have already developed such policy frameworks. Others like, Benin, Lesotho and Zambia, are still in the process.

RSR also supported the development of a regional report that pulled together findings of safety nets reviews in 22 African countries (including the six supported by RSR). Analyzing the objectives, features, performance and financing of the programs, the report provides insights on what drives safety nets development in different contexts and challenges associated with establishing safety nets in Africa.

The participatory review process helped the respective governments to better see where they stand and what options they have for building the most appropriate social protection system. In certain cases, the study offered an opportunity to engage with the government on social protection issues for the first time.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RESULTS

RSR-supported Review of Social Safety Nets

- Angola—helped consolidate the country’s first policy dialogue on social protection, resulting in a concrete work plan to develop operational tools (targeting mechanisms, registry of beneficiaries, and monitoring and evaluation)
- Benin—aided design of safety net pilot, comprising the first component of a 12- year policy loan
- Tanzania—The safety net review was used as a best practice example and guided subsequent similar reviews in other countries.

RSR-supported Review of Cash Transfer Programs

- Mali—feasibility assessment of cash transfer program informed the design of an IDA-supported safety net operation

RSR-supported Dialogue on Social Protection

- Lesotho—offered an opportunity to engage with government on social protection issues, resulting in continued technical assistance to the government’s effort to set up a national information system for social assistance. The review has already informed the design of a social protection component of the recently approved Development Policy Credit and a forthcoming Social Protection Strategy.
- Zambia—RSR-supported review facilitated dialogue on social protection between government and development partners, and findings expected to inform social protection intervention for FY13
- Regional —helped develop regional briefing note “Readiness of Safety Nets to Respond to Drought in the Horn of Africa,” including status of safety net development in most of Sub-Saharan countries
- Regional—helped develop the report: “Social Safety Nets in Africa—A Review of Experiences in 22 Countries”



RAPID SOCIAL RESPONSE



SUPPORT TO NEW AND IMPROVED SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LABOR SYSTEMS

BANGLADESH



REVAMPING SAFETY NETS FOR BETTER PROTECTION, NUTRITION AND EDUCATION

RSR is piloting new and smart ways of delivering social safety nets, placing stepping stones for thousands of young people to a more prosperous life and helping their parents safeguard against shocks.

CHALLENGE

Despite substantial economic growth over the last decade, about 35 million people in Bangladesh remain poor and socio-economic inequities are widening.

When food prices increase or climate shocks destroy livelihoods, poor families are often forced to resort to negative coping strategies, such as, selling off their productive assets, pulling children out of school and reducing the quantity and quality of meals. These actions have direct and lifelong impacts on all family members, but especially on children's mental and physical health. The negative effects are then passed on from one generation to the next.

To address vulnerability and preempt negative coping strategies, the Government of Bangladesh implements a large number of safety net programs of varying sizes. Applying a broad perspective, including through education, employment, health, nutrition, and disaster response, these programs provide benefits in the form of food, cash transfers or a combination of the two. Today, despite these efforts, large numbers of the poor and vulnerable remain out of reach.

RSR Funding:

US\$ 4,075,200

Associated IDA Projects:

Safety Net Systems for the Poorest Project (US\$ 500 million),
Employment Generation Program for the Poorest (US\$ 150 million)

Partners:

Bangladesh Centre for Communication Programs,
Data Analysis and Technical Assistance,
Bangladesh Post Office



APPROACH

Recognizing that a more effective and efficient utilization of expenditures could increase coverage, the government has shown strong willingness to evaluate program effectiveness and confront shortcomings. RSR supported the overhaul of the safety net programs through two activities:

Shombhob, which means “possible” in Bangla, is the RSR-supported pilot that enables local governments to deliver cash transfers to poor families on condition that children under age two are regularly monitored for growth and school-aged children go to school. The assumption is that programs implemented at the local level are more effective in defining and meeting the needs of the poor than if implemented at the central level.

The activity pioneered three breakthroughs for social protection in Bangladesh. The first, statistical modeling helps to correctly identify the poorest households. Second, the management information system was computerized, through a public-private partnership, and helps ensure timely cash payments and monitoring mechanisms, with schools and communities to verify beneficiary selection and compliance. And the third, an electronic payment system delivers cash payments at local post offices via debit cards to mothers of participating households; mothers also can use the debit cards to save or transfer money to others.

However, extreme poverty and lack of knowledge on the demand side and low capacity on the supply side made it difficult to meet and enforce the conditions attached to the cash transfers. To overcome these constraints and as part of the pilot, local government staff has been trained to carry out home visits, on a monthly basis, counsel household members on the use of the cash transfer and explain to parents how to ensure that their children are not under-weight as well as the importance of breast-feeding, hygiene and vaccinations.

Nascent, this “smart” safety net now empowers 14,127 mothers thru financial literacy and helps them make more informed decisions about their children’s nutrition and education. It also fosters cross-collaboration and economies of scale among the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and Local Government Division while growing solutions at the local level.

Employment Generation for the Poor Project (EGPP) is the largest public works program in the country supported by IDA. RSR is funding technical assistance to make payments to the workers and attendance-monitoring less prone to large-scale error and fraud. By bringing together new actors and technologies, a more timely, cost-effective and transparent modality stands to benefit 600,000 workers at 15 sites across the country.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RESULTS

Shombhob

- 14,127 extremely poor families benefiting from the pilot, with mothers:
 - Attending nutritional sessions, and learning why and how to monitor growth
 - Ensuring regular attendance at school by their children
 - Using debit cards to collect their bi-monthly allowance
- 15,774 primary school-age children attending school, of which 7,590 are girls
- 7,004 children age 0-36 receiving health benefits, of which 3,800 are girls
- Local health clinics being used for health compliance monitoring every month
- Local school authorities working with the Project Implementing Unit to carry out education compliance monitoring every 45 days
- Scale up of SHOMBHOB currently being discussed

EGPP Pilot

- Brings private sector technology providers, NGOs and government together and is helping to initiate a dialogue on use of technology
- 8,000 people benefit directly from implementation of pilot
- *Associated IDA Projects: Safety Net Systems for the Poorest Project (US\$ 500 million), Employment Generation Program for the Poorest (US\$ 150 million)*
 - Over 1 million people stand to benefit from improved transfer of payments



RAPID SOCIAL RESPONSE



CAMEROON

SUPPORT TO NEW AND IMPROVED SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LABOR SYSTEMS



Population, total	20.03 million (2011)
Poverty headcount ratio at \$2 per day (PPP) as percent of population:	30 (2007)
GNI per capita, Atlas method (current US\$)	1,210 (2011)

RSR Funding:

US\$ 550,000

Associated IDA Project:Social Safety Nets Project
(US\$ 50 million)

STREAMLINING PROGRAMS, GAINING EFFICIENCIES: A NEW SPL SYSTEM IN THE MAKING

In Cameroon, a system for social protection is being developed through a collaborative and inclusive process with support from RSR. The extreme poor and vulnerable will be better reached while the government spends less than it does today on safety nets and subsidies combined.

CHALLENGE

While the Cameroon economy possesses tremendous resources in human and natural capital, poverty gaps are growing. The vulnerability to droughts, given that almost half of the country's population is dependent on subsistence agriculture, is high. In 2007, only 37 percent of the total population was considered food secure, and that was before the Food, Fuel and Financial Crisis hit in 2008.¹

The Government of Cameroon is committed to applying mechanisms for social protection to reduce vulnerability, but due to fragmentation and a limited scale of interventions, the efforts have so far not produced tangible impacts. Indeed, the subsidies used to respond to the economic crises of 2008 proved to be both costly and ineffective. The food subsidies on maize, flour, frozen fish, rice and wheat did not specifically target the poor, children or other vulnerable groups. And, the fuel subsidies did not benefit the poor either, because commercially available fuel, such as, gasoline, is more likely to be consumed only by households in higher income groups.

APPROACH

A review of programs and a safety net feasibility study, supported by RSR, demonstrated that it is possible to transform the array of social protection interventions into a system that reaches all of the extreme poor for less than what the government currently spends on safety nets and subsidies altogether.

The participatory nature of the analytical work contributed to strong interest and ownership by the government. In addition, the outcome of the studies led to the preparation of a US\$ 50 million IDA operation, the country's first for social protection, approved in March 2013.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RESULTS

- Contributed to the first bricks in new safety net system, through a review of existing social safety net programs and a feasibility study to inform the government's cash transfer pilot, including scale, cost and duration of implementation
- Following the analysis, RSR helped to set up a cash transfer pilot that benefits 2,000 poor and food-insecure households (approximately 12,000 people) in two disadvantaged regions of Cameroon
- Support set-up included all aspects of design (benefit level, targeting, benefit structure, beneficiary identification methods) and implementation (payment agency, institutional arrangements)
- Built capacity at the central level for managing and monitoring of the pilot, including development of a management information system which will help in maintaining an accurate database of current and potential beneficiaries
- *Associated IDA Project: Social Safety Nets Project (US\$ 50 million)*
 - Benefits 420,000 vulnerable people directly through cash transfers and public works programs in the five poorest regions—Adamaoua, the East, the North, the North-West, and the Far-North
 - Contributes to a coordinated safety net system that can make existing programs better targeted to the poor and vulnerable

¹ World Bank (2013). Cameroon Social Safety Net Program Project Appraisal Document. Washington DC.





RAPID SOCIAL RESPONSE



DJIBOUTI

SUPPORT TO NEW AND IMPROVED SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LABOR SYSTEMS



Population, total	905,600 (2011)
GNI per capita, Atlas method (current US\$)	1,270 (2009)

RSR Funding:

US\$ 173,593

Associated IDA Project:

Crisis Response—Social Safety Net Project (US\$ 5 million)

BOOSTING HOUSEHOLD INCOMES AND IMPROVING NUTRITION

Prevention, preemption and whole-family solutions are at the fore of Djibouti's countermeasures to chronic food insecurity and external economic shocks, and their resulting social challenges. RSR provided technical support to the scale-up of a labor-intensive public works program that combines nutrition interventions and employment opportunities to feed into the overall health and welfare of the country.

CHALLENGE

Four consecutive years of drought and the rise in food and fuel prices have brought unprecedented challenges in the country. One third of Djiboutian children under five are chronically underweight and 10 percent are severely stunted. Children between the critical ages of 12 and 36 months have the highest prevalence of malnutrition. Furthermore, only 35 percent of children complete primary school, and the unemployment rate hovers around 50 percent.¹

The government responded quickly when food insecurity and malnutrition turned acute during the food crisis of 2008, lifting taxes on basic food items and intensifying food distribution; but the assistance fell short in meeting the needs of the most vulnerable. In part, the existing array of social protection programs was limited in scope and cross-sectoral capacities; they could neither be scaled up for lack of poverty-based targeting mechanisms nor fine-tuned to explicitly capture the most vulnerable first. The magnitude of the problem on the ground surpassed past practices, and necessitated new thinking.

APPROACH

RSR provided technical support to the scale-up of an integrated social safety net program for poor households. The Djibouti Social Development Agency (ADDS) Workfare Program provides short-term employment opportunities for men and women in community-based labor-intensive works in combination with a nutrition program. This concept is new to Djibouti and serves to ensure that the earned income and the enhanced nutrition practices improve the well-being of the whole family, including pre-school children and pregnant or lactating women.

As the first social protection program in the country, all of the necessary systems (targeting, management information, payment) and capacity (training materials, catalogue of works) had to be built, and RSR helped provide the requisite technical support. It also introduced such concepts as the preventive approach to nutrition, focusing on the first 1,000 days (from pregnancy to two years old) and working across sectors.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RESULTS

- Built monitoring information system, serving as basis for a national registry of beneficiaries
- Developed tools to improve targeting system, including methodology for evaluation applicable to a wide range of social protection programs, survey questionnaire, training manual, indicators and sampling framework
- Provided technical consultations on how to make safety nets more effective, with a particular emphasis on women and children and focus group discussions in communities to fine-tune messaging, actively engaging women in the program to encourage better nutrition practices
- Supported field visits by the government and executing agency to see cross-sectoral programs and prevention approach to malnutrition in Guinea and Mali
- Supported ADDS staff participation in the Social Safety Net Core Course in Washington DC (December 2010)
- *Associated IDA Project: Crisis Response—Social Safety Net Project (US\$ 5 million)*
 - Creates 219,000 work days for 2,900 temporary workers (75 days per worker), benefitting 18,270 people and piloting the use of banking system for weekly-based payment linked to MIS system
 - Captures 2,900 beneficiaries of safety net programs, of which 750 are women
 - Services 50 percent of pregnant/lactating women and preschool children enrolled in the nutrition program

¹ All statistics in this paragraph are based on: World Bank (2012). Djibouti Social Safety Net Project Emergency Project Paper. Washington DC.

ETHIOPIA



RAPID SOCIAL RESPONSE



SUPPORT TO NEW AND IMPROVED SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LABOR SYSTEMS



Population, total	84.73 million (2011)
Poverty headcount ratio at \$2 per day (PPP) as percent of population:	78 (2005)
GNI per capita, Atlas method (current US\$)	370 (2011)

RSR Funding:

US\$ 1,021,496

Associated IDA Project:

Nutrition Project (US\$ 30 million)

Partner:

UNICEF

STRENGTHENING THE EARLY WARNING SYSTEM FOR MALNUTRITION

RSR helped the regional health bureaus to improve data collection and quality to better track malnutrition in the wake of seasonal shocks. Early warning information, as a result of RSR's support, is now flowing from villages to regional administrations and line ministries, enabling a united and timely response.

CHALLENGE

In Ethiopia, the effects of the 2008 Food Crisis were exacerbated by droughts, and by significantly reduced levels of remittances from Ethiopians living overseas. Then in 2011, the rains failed again over the Horn of Africa and new droughts pushed the already vulnerable deeper into poverty and put millions in need of emergency food assistance.

This cycle of seasonal shock and often-resulting famine recurred, in part, for lack of an efficient system to predict looming food crises. Up until recently, the reporting system only collected indicators on the food supply-side, such as, rainfall and crop productions, while data on malnutrition were captured separately and sporadically. And, ad hoc surveys were the only reliable source for detecting problems with nutrition, which made timely response difficult.



APPROACH

In 2009, the Federal Ministry of Health (FMOH) launched the new National Nutrition Program (NNP) supported by a US\$ 30 million grant from IDA that aims to improve the nutritional status of young children and mothers. As part of the program, and with support from RSR, the government embarked on a reform to improve nutrition data management and utilization. The reform makes way for evidence-based decision-making through a strengthened Nutrition Information System (NIS).

RSR, in collaboration with UNICEF, supported the development and implementation of the NIS in 11 particularly pastoral regions where malnutrition is high but data is scarce. Here, RSR helped the regional health bureaus establish better data collection procedures and improve the quality of data from the existing sources. Examples of such sources include the Community-Based Nutrition (CBN) Program, which actively involves families and community members in assessing the health- and nutrition-related problems of children and women, and the Therapeutic Feeding Program, which provides life-saving services to severely malnourished children.

Funds from RSR also helped the Ethiopian Health and Nutrition Research Institute (ENHRI) build a central database to monitor and supervise the regular information flow from the woredas (the smallest unit of local government) to the districts to the regions, and across to the Emergency Nutrition Coordination Unit in the Disaster Risk Management and Food Security Sector (DRMFSS) of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. This flow of information enables a triangulation of food security data for increased validity and agreement on thresholds for response.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RESULTS

- Cultivated intra-government collaboration, representing a paradigm shift in structures and reporting
- Strengthened health and nutrition management information systems, resulting in information flowing across federal, regional, district and woreda levels to support better program implementation
- 2,380 health personnel trained on data collection, quality, management and utilization, representing 100 percent of target
- *Associated IDA Project: Nutrition Project (US\$ 30 million)*
 - 9,750,000 people provided access to basic package of nutrition services covering infant and young child feeding, micronutrients and women's nutrition
 - 41 percent of children 0-23 months participated in monthly growth monitoring and promotion (GMP) sessions, with prevalence of malnutrition (underweight) decreasing from 31 to 14 percent as of mid-term
 - 54.5 percent of woredas providing monthly nutrition data to federal level (exceeding end target by mid-term)
 - National Nutrition Coordination Body established, with high-level membership from sectors



RAPID SOCIAL RESPONSE



GUINEA

SUPPORT TO NEW AND IMPROVED SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LABOR SYSTEMS



Population, total	10.2 million (2011)
Poverty headcount ratio at \$2 per day (PPP) as percent of population:	70 (2007)
GNI per capita, Atlas method (current US\$)	430 (2011)

RSR Funding:

US\$ 400,000

Associated IDA Project:

Productive Social Safety Net Project (US\$ 25 million)

HELPING TO CAST SAFETY NETS WIDER

RSR helped to lay the foundations of a safety net system that is anchored within a social protection strategy and capable of effectively responding to crises and increasing people's resilience.

CHALLENGE

Guinea rests at a critical juncture, brought about by the combination of a first-ever government with both national and international legitimacy and the coming together of civil society energies in support for democracy and development. In step, the new government is seizing this window of opportunity to use social service delivery as a means to reduce poverty and increase growth. But as is commonly the case in low income countries, social protection interventions are characterized by fragmented, small-scale piecemeal programs, to a large extent dependent on donors.

The government is recognizing the challenge of fragmentation and is now looking for a systems approach in order to improve both efficiency and effectiveness.

APPROACH

To assist the government in this endeavor—and with support from RSR—a World Bank task team set out to identify the sources of systemic shocks in Guinea and their effects on the chronic poor.

The analytical work resulted in the approval of an IDA grant of US\$25 million for Guinea's Productive Safety Net Project, approved in June 2012. RSR also helped to build in-country capacity (including at the local institutions level) to efficiently implement the IDA-financed project, which is attracting new partners as well; for example, the UN Peace Building Fund and the European Union have pledged additional funding. In parallel to the implementation, lessons are drawn from the project which will feed into a new social protection strategy for the country. Guinea's Productive Safety Net Project provides temporary jobs in public works and cash transfers. The latter invests directly in helping malnourished children and primary school girls in rural areas where many children suffer from malnutrition and too few girls finish primary education.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RESULTS

- Carried out a comprehensive analysis of the impact of the Food, Fuel, and Financial Crisis on the poor and vulnerable populations, assessing household coping mechanisms and reviewing existing safety net instruments for effectiveness (relevance, responsiveness to crisis, scalability, targeting, coverage, sustainability)
- Laid groundwork for extensive in-country dialogue, contextualizing dimensions of social protection and identifying instruments suitable to the Guinean context
- Designed key safety net system elements, including eligibility criteria, benefit levels, targeting mechanisms, payment systems, management information system/information and communications technology, and implementation and financing options
- Supported South-South learning participation
- *Associated IDA Project: Productive Social Safety Net Project (US\$ 25 million)*
 - Creates 2.4 million work days for 24,000 temporary workers (100 days per worker per year), benefiting 144,000 people
 - Builds community infrastructure through public works, serving 500,000 users
 - Provides life skills training for 5,000 youth participating in the public works program
 - Covers 10,000 poor households, benefiting approximately 60,000 people from unconditional cash transfers, of which 5,000 households with malnourished children 0- 24 months old and 5,000 households with primary school age girls



RAPID SOCIAL RESPONSE



SUPPORT TO NEW AND IMPROVED SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LABOR SYSTEMS

HONDURAS



Population, total	7.75 million (2011)
Poverty headcount ratio at \$2 per day (PPP) as percent of population:	30 (2009)
GNI per capita, Atlas method (current US\$)	1,980 (2011)

RSR Funding:

US\$ 1,272,566

Associated IDA Projects:

Nutrition and Social Protection Project Additional Financing (US\$ 20 million),
Social Protection Project (US\$ 40 million)

DELIVERING STRONGER PROTECTION AND FASTER NUTRITION RESPONSE

RSR supported the implementation of two IDA grants for nutrition and social protection in Honduras. The RSR grants enabled the government to in a timely manner detect crises-affected locations, target those most in need, as well as ensure nutrition monitoring in areas with high incidence of malnutrition.

CHALLENGE

Honduras is not only one of the poorest countries in the Latin America and Caribbean Region, its income inequality is also one of the highest. Despite its rich resources in agricultural land, forests and fishing grounds in two oceans, 29 percent of children under five are stunted—a figure that rises to 50 percent in some parts of the country.¹

Besides high levels of persistent poverty, the country struggles with unemployment fueling violence and crime as young people seek opportunities in drug trafficking. In addition, Honduras is extremely susceptible to cyclical hurricanes and droughts.

APPROACH

In January 2010, the then new government introduced a flagship social assistance program, Bono 10,000, a conditional cash transfer program targeted to poor families with children. Along with the launch of Bono, the new administration also articulated a National Plan that set the intention “to provide resources to the poorest in society through a social protection strategy that would change... Honduras into a country with no extreme poverty, educated and healthy, with consolidated systems of social security.”²

Honduras has had, since 1991, a community-based nutrition program, Atención Integral a la Niñez Comunitaria (AIN-C), to prevent chronic malnutrition through monitoring and promoting children’s growth and by providing personalized counseling to parents and referrals to health centers. The AIN-C program is based on community volunteers (monitores).

Through the IDA-supported Nutrition and Social Protection Project Additional Financing Project, the World Bank is supporting the consolidation and expansion of the AIN-C services, especially with regard to systematic training and monitoring for monitores at the community level. In a pilot supported by RSR, the monitores use cell phones to transmit the nutrition information that they collect to the regional offices for analysis. Prior to the RSR intervention, the AIN-C information system



was not prepared to serve as an emergency warning system. For example, data collected in the field took at least one month to reach the central level.

In addition, RSR provided support to expand Bono 10,000 and AIN-C. Through an assessment of the targeting instrument, RSR helped to strengthen Bono 10,000 and assisted the program in attaining its enrollment goal of reaching the most vulnerable. In complement, RSR supported the provision of nutritional services in crises-affected Bono 10,000 communities and in AIN-C communities.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RESULTS

RSR Grant to Nutrition

- To date, trained 103 health staff from the central, regional and local levels in data collection and transmission, and provided data collectors (monitores) with cell phones for transmitting nutritional data
- Contributed towards the expansion of nutritional and health services—including the purchase and distribution of micronutrient supplements in the six departments, and training on use of micronutrient supplements and early childhood development
- 2,614 children and 270 pregnant women benefitted directly from the RSR-supported nutrition activities
- *Associated IDA Project: Nutrition and Social Protection Project Additional Financing (US\$ 20 million, approved June 2011)*
 - 2,300 health care workers trained and 1,036 communities receiving AIN-C services (exceeding target), with 97% of 0–2 year olds in beneficiary communities participating in weighing sessions (exceeding target)
 - Institutional structure for social protection policy formulation, planning and implementation defined and approved by decree

RSR Grant to Social Protection

- Provided technical assistance to the development of a targeting mechanism for subsidies, a unique registry of beneficiaries and a review of existing social protection programs to see how these can be consolidated and free up resources for the conditional cash transfer program under Bono 10,000
- Evaluated alternative payment options for the cash transfer program, including transfers through mobile phones and cooperative banks
- *Associated IDA Project: Social Protection Project (US\$ 40 million, approved June 2010)*
 - Conditional Cash Transfer: 600,000 poor households, benefitting 3.6 million people with 65 percent of conditional cash transfers received by households in the poorest quintile

¹ World Bank (2009). Nutrition at a Glance: Honduras. Washington DC (<http://siteresources.worldbank.org/NUTRITION/Resources/281846-1271963823772/Honduras.pdf>)

² Honduras National Plan for Development 2010.



RAPID SOCIAL RESPONSE



SUPPORT TO NEW AND IMPROVED SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LABOR SYSTEMS

KENYA



Population, total	41.61 million (2011)
Poverty headcount ratio at \$2 per day (PPP) as percent of population:	67 (2005)
GNI per capita, Atlas method (current US\$)	820 (2011)

RSR Funding:

US\$ 1.5 million

Associated IDA Projects:

Cash Transfer for Orphans and Vulnerable Children (US\$ 50 million), National Integrated Safety Net Program (Program for Results) (US\$ 250 million, to be approved in July 2013)

LAYING THE GROUNDWORK FOR SOCIAL PROTECTION REFORM

RSR has helped Kenya to create an affordable and harmonized framework for social protection, one that more effectively tackles inequalities and reduces poverty and vulnerabilities.

CHALLENGE

With a long-term shift out of family farming into a service-based economy and rapidly-increasing urbanization as a result, Kenya is undergoing a profound transformation. The new economy, however, is not generating enough modern sector wage jobs for the young, who make up over half of the labor force, and inequalities are growing. Nearly half of the population lives in poverty and 20 percent in extreme poverty.¹

A newly ratified constitution protects the rights of women, marginalized groups and the disabled through a comprehensive Bill of Rights that includes the right to social protection. Yet, the many social protection programs are disconnected from one and another, and the ten-fold increase in the coverage of safety net programs since 2005 reaches only 8 percent of the extreme poor.²

To increase the efficiency and effectiveness of safety nets in Kenya, the government plans to establish a National Safety Net Program (NSNP) that will provide a coordinated framework for the five main cash transfer programs. This is the first critical step in a longer-term reform agenda aimed at establishing a national safety net system for the country.

APPROACH

RSR-funded activities were designed to assist the reform agenda by focusing on short-term needs to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the existing safety net programs, while also looking strategically at the longer-term evolution of the sector.

The Cash Transfer for Orphans and Vulnerable Children Program (CT-OVC) is one of the five main cash transfer programs in Kenya. The RSR supported the implementation of a pilot of co-responsibilities in which beneficiaries access regular transfers of cash on provision that children are vaccinated and attend school. RSR also supported the roll-out of biometric smart cards to pay beneficiaries of the program through a new payment service provider.

RSR also financed three technical works: a Review of the Social Protection Sector, a Review of the Kenya Urban Cash Transfer Pilot, and the design of a single beneficiary registry. Cumulatively, these helped to deepen the in-country dialogue on social

protection. The most concrete example of their effect is the decision by the government to launch a National Integrated Safety Net Program and the proposed IDA operation to support it through the Program-for-Results (P4R), currently under preparation.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RESULTS

- Informed the operationalization of the National Social Protection Policy and supported the design of the National Integrated Safety Net Program and the proposed World Bank support to it through a Program for Results (P4R):
 - Financed the Kenya Social Protection Review, which provided the backbone for the National Safety Net Program, and the Review of Kenya Urban Food Subsidy Cash Transfer Pilot, which resulted in improved implementation systems and procedures
 - Supported technical assistance to help the government design a single registry for the five principle cash transfer programs, consolidate sources of information for policy-makers, enable cross-checking of beneficiary lists, strengthen process to identify beneficiary lists and create a platform for other delivery systems
 - Supported the Cash Transfer for Orphans and Vulnerable Children Program of the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Development on the implementation of a co-responsibility pilot and roll-out of new biometric smart card payment service
- *Associated IDA Projects: National Integrated Safety Net Program (P4R) (US\$ 250 million, to be approved in July 2013) and Kenya Cash Transfer for Orphans and Vulnerable Children (US\$ 50 million)*



¹ World Bank (2009). Kenya Poverty and Inequality Assessment, Executive Summary and Synthesis Report. Washington DC.

² World Bank (2013). Kenya National Safety Net Program for Results Project Information Document. Washington DC.



RAPID SOCIAL RESPONSE



SUPPORT TO NEW AND IMPROVED SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LABOR SYSTEMS

LIBERIA



Population, total	4.129 million (2011)
Poverty headcount ratio at \$2 per day (PPP) as percent of population:	95 (2007)
GNI per capita, Atlas method (current US\$)	330 (2011)

RSR Funding:

US\$ 240,000

Associated IDA Project:

Youth Employment Skills Project (US\$ 16 million)

Partner:

UNDP

PROVIDING PROTECTION AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR LIBERIA'S VULNERABLE YOUTH

Liberia is focused on creating jobs for their youth. The government has allocated US\$ 75 million to the Liberia Youth Employment Program (LYEP), with the goal of creating 20,000 new jobs annually over the next five years. RSR supported analytical work that enabled an efficient use of resources and helped ensure that the program reaches those most in need.

CHALLENGE

In a country where 75 percent of the population is under 35 years old,¹ stability and growth hinge on opportunities given to young people. This is imperative in Liberia where the challenges not only lie in the sheer size of the youth population but also in their vulnerability; most grew up during the civil war in childhoods marked by violence and insecurity, and deprived of access to education and health.

The government is committed to developing a social protection and labor system and improving opportunities for youth so that the country can heal its wounds and grow into the middle-income country it aspires to be. The short-term priority is to generate employment for young people, while also working towards rebuilding the country's human capital and concertedly focusing on those aged 15 and younger. The challenges are many, not least including government institutional capacity and the absence of a strategy to coordinate and monitor the targeting and impact of the many fragmented and mostly donor-driven programs for youth that already exist.

APPROACH

With RSR support, the World Bank task team has built an evidence base that informs the choice, design and sequencing of interventions under LYEP. These policy recommendations were fed into a multi-sectoral framework led by the Ministry of Youth and Sports and will help guide the policies for youth over the next five years.

RSR was a vital instrument to jump start an important and emerging priority issue for the government, providing balance between a structured and flexible framework and meeting the on-the-ground needs in a timely manner.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RESULTS

- In collaboration with UNDP, developed and widely circulated a comprehensive database of youth-targeted programs and studies in Liberia with a view to avoid duplication and make programs more effective

¹ World Bank (2010). Liberia Youth, Employment, Skills Project Appraisal Document. Washington DC.



- Carried out a meta-analysis of programs from around the world addressing vulnerable youth and took stock on lessons relevant for Liberia
- Authored a Vulnerable Youth Profile Note based on Core Welfare Indicators Questionnaire (2007 and 2010), Labor Force Survey (2010), the three most recent District Household Surveys and the National School Census, to better understand who the vulnerable youth are and their needs, and to ensure programs targeting vulnerable youth indeed reach that population
- Informed the design and implementation of the Liberia Youth Employment Program (LYEP), based on the findings from the above three products
- *Associated IDA Project: Youth, Employment, Skills Project (US\$ 16 million)*
 - Creates 1,080,000 days of temporary employment for 28,000 youth (40-day period at US\$ 3 per day wage rate), of which 50.3 percent are women
 - Trains 1,028 youth toward certification, of which 38 percent are women
 - Trains 215 institutional leaders and trainers on skills development
 - Includes 100 business owners participating and completing business development training

VOICES: Lulu's and Bendy's Stories

To assist the Government of Liberia in its policy reform for youth employment, RSR supported the development of profiles of vulnerable youth based on national surveys and census data. As part of this work, several series of interviews were conducted to identify the people behind the statistics and paint a better picture of who the youth really are.

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"I left school in 7th grade because of the war, but I liked school very much and had good teachers. I got married and had seven children, but my husband died in the war. We were forced to move to a camp for internally displaced people near the border of Guinea. We lived there for three years. We didn't have enough food and could not get any medical attention so two of my youngest children died. Since the war things have been difficult, but we have a place to live now and I have enough money to buy food, but if anyone were to get sick I would not be able to pay for their treatment. I taught myself how to build kitchens and I also fish for other people. Despite all that I have gone through, I feel that people listen to me in my community and come to me for advice and help. I would like to help others more, but cannot at the moment. I am looking forward to participating in the project and hope that it will give me enough skills to get a better job. It is important to me because I would like to be able to send my children to school."

Lulu, 35

Here are the stories of Lulu and Bendy who were about to begin skills training under the IDA-supported Youth, Skills and Employment (YES) Project at the time of the interviews. The YES Project provides jobs for poor, unemployed Liberian youth by providing them with training in a skill or trade, or giving them access to temporary employment through public works in their community.

"I moved several times during the war and ended up here [in Klay outside Monrovia]. I had to stop school when I was in the 7th grade because my parents were worried about me when I walked back and forth to school, then we were forced to leave our home and got separated somehow... I ended up in a refugee camp in Guinea by myself. My family suffered a lot of violence. My older brother was killed, and my grandfather was beaten so badly he was paralyzed. I was also beaten several times by soldiers and one time I nearly died. After the war, I went back to look for the rest of my family, but I have not been able to find them."

I live with my boyfriend and we have two children. Currently, I braid hair and although I don't earn much we make enough for our family to eat and we have a place to live. If anyone gets sick though, it would be difficult to pay for treatment. I would find a way though. I have a lot of hope. I am excited about the YES Project and hope I can learn a skill that will help me find a job so I can send my children to school when they are old enough."

Bendy, 27



RAPID SOCIAL RESPONSE



MOZAMBIQUE

SUPPORT TO NEW AND IMPROVED SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LABOR SYSTEMS



Population, total	23.93 million (2011)
Poverty headcount ratio at \$2 per day (PPP) as percent of population:	82 (2009)
GNI per capita, Atlas method (current US\$)	470 (2011)

RSR Funding:

US\$ 2,155,000

Associated IDA Project:

Social Protection Project (US\$ 50 million)

Partners:

DfID, SIDA

DEVELOPING BUILDING BLOCKS FOR SOCIAL PROTECTION THROUGH PUBLIC WORKS

RSR played a key role in identifying and preparing the first IDA-supported social protection project in Mozambique. The US\$ 50 million IDA grant will strengthen institutions, consolidate a national basic social security strategy and support the nationwide expansion of a public works program.

CHALLENGE

In recent years, Mozambique has been hit frequently by natural disasters, leading to the loss of crops, livestock, homes and other assets. Intertwined with increasing food prices, more than half of today's adult population in Mozambique is food-insecure, and 44 percent of children are chronically malnourished.¹

Three-quarters of the population and most of the poor reside in rural areas vulnerable to seasonal and frequent climatic-related shocks. The agricultural lean season poses an especially high risk of food insecurity for rural workers and their families —on average consuming 40 percent fewer calories in this four-month period.² Conversely, a reliance on food and fuel subsidies and protracted underemployment beset the urban poor who, as a result of the prolonged rise of food and fuel prices, have continued to delve deeper into poverty.



Families in rural and urban areas are often forced to resort to self-destructive coping strategies, such as, selling off already limited productive assets, reducing the quality and quantity of food and taking children out of school. The effects of these actions are often debilitating and lifelong, especially for children.

APPROACH

Through a pilot, RSR supported the development of labor-intensive public works in 10 arid and semi-arid rural areas and two urban areas to address the country-specific dynamics of poverty and food insecurity. RSR helped to set the direction of the new national public works program by developing and testing criteria for selecting beneficiaries, determining the level of transfers and ascertaining the types of eligible public works. Under the scheme, workers in rural areas are given a cash transfer for labor-intensive public works during the agricultural lean season, a time when families typically have no alternative source of income. The works are mostly focused on soil and water conservation and management, rehabilitation of degraded areas, rural roads maintenance and support to agricultural practices. The project will also support extremely poor workers in urban areas to help address longer periods of unemployment. Here, the workers participate in cleaning drainage systems, parks and cemeteries.

RSR also supported the National Institute for Social Action (Instituto Nacional de Acção Social—INAS), as the agency implementing the four major social protection programs comprised in the new social protection strategy, in defining its institutional responsibilities and relationships with other central and local agencies that are implementing labor-intensive public works.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RESULTS

- Developed and implemented a public works pilot in 10 rural and two urban districts
 - 9,592 poor households or, around 50,000 people benefitted from the pilot
 - Community assets created in 10 rural and two urban districts
- Developed methods to adequately identify poor and vulnerable populations
- Developed an operational manual, serving as basis for implementing National Program for Productive Social Action (Programa de Accao Social Produtiva) integrated in National Strategy for Social Protection (Estrategia Nacional de Seguranca Social Basica)
- Defined the main processes to be implemented during IDA operation, including the flow of funds, payments to beneficiaries and monitoring and evaluation process
- Facilitated South-South learning, through core courses, in-country expert visits and an international conference on social protection in Maputo
- *Associated IDA Project: Mozambique Social Protection Project (US\$ 50 million, approved March 28, 2013)*
 - Expands public works program nationwide
 - Employs 100,000 temporary workers, benefiting 500,000 people
 - At least 50 percent of workers are women
 - Places public works program as a key building block of a safety net system

¹ World Health Organization (2010). Comprehensive Food Security and Vulnerability Analysis. Maputo.

² World Bank (2013). Mozambique Social Protection Project Information Document. Washington DC.

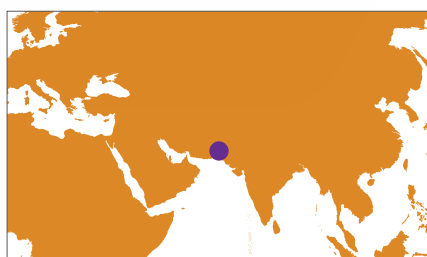


RAPID SOCIAL RESPONSE



PAKISTAN

SUPPORT TO NEW AND IMPROVED SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LABOR SYSTEMS



Population, total	176.7 million (2011)
Poverty headcount ratio at \$2 per day (PPP) as percent of population:	60 (2008)
GNI per capita, Atlas method (current US\$)	1,120 (2011)

RSR Funding:

US\$ 810,000

Associated IDA Projects:

Social Safety Net Project (US\$ 60 million),

Social Safety Net Project Additional Financing (US\$ 150 million)

Partners:

CGAP,
The Benazir Income Support Program and Cabinet Division,
Government of Pakistan,
State Bank of Pakistan,
DfID

FINANCIAL LITERACY, THE PATH TO INCLUSION AND GRADUATION

Through a small grant, RSR is helping millions of cash transfer beneficiaries in Pakistan see the benefits of formal savings and better access banking services. While most of the beneficiaries remain “unbanked,” awareness is growing about financial literacy and inclusion as a means of graduating from social assistance and accessing long-term economic opportunities.

CHALLENGE

The Food, Fuel and Financial Crisis of 2008 and the devastating floods of 2010 pushed a large share of Pakistan's vulnerable population into abject poverty.

As a response to the crises, the Government of Pakistan established two large cash transfer programs—the Benazir Income Support Program (BISP), which targets the chronic poor, and the Citizen Damage Compensation Program (CDCP) for the flood-affected population. The two programs were financed in part by IDA credits and now reach almost a sixth of the total population. Both programs use advanced technology-based payment mechanisms, such as payments via ATM, magstripe debit cards, mobile phones and point of service (POS) agents.

That being said, very few of the 27 million cash transfer recipients have access to formal bank accounts and services. Instead, they have to rely on risky and inconvenient ways to manage their monthly income. They also have very little opportunity to save and weather unexpected events, such as unemployment, illnesses and deaths without resorting to expensive debt.

APPROACH

RSR supported an assessment that has helped the government better understand how the beneficiaries of cash transfer programs manage their personal finances and perceive payment systems and banking. The results are being used by implementing agencies and participating financial institutions in their planning and ensuring efficient and effective delivery of the cash grants.

In complement, a Financial Literacy and Inclusion (FLI) module was designed for the poorest and most vulnerable women receiving cash transfers from BISP and CDCP. It provides hands-on training to educate the beneficiaries on the best use of cash transfers, the ATM card payment system and the different banking services that are available.



ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RESULTS

- Carried out a beneficiary survey of cash transfer programs through a nationally representative survey identifying feasible options for more efficient and cost-effective delivery of payments, soliciting for the first time the experiences and opinions of the poorest and most vulnerable.
 - Different payment modalities were compared from a beneficiary perspective (payments via ATM, magstripe debit cards, mobile phones, POS agents and the post office).
- Developed a Learning and Training Module on Financial Literacy, a complete kit with videos, training manual, participant manuals and other teaching aids.
 - The Financial Innovation Challenge Fund used the RSR-supported learning module to train 817,000 extremely poor female cash transfer beneficiaries in six districts (funded by State Bank of Pakistan).
- Informed BISP pilot, further educating beneficiaries on the utility of magstripe debit cards—encouraging their use to buy groceries—and the banking system for savings, hence helping them onto the path of financial inclusion and graduation.
- Supported the development of a documentary film on the evolution of cash transfer payments in the country, and lessons learnt.
- *Associated IDA Projects: Social Safety Net Project (US\$ 60 million) and Social Safety Net Project Additional Financing (US\$ 150 million).*
- The RSR products are currently being disseminated in collaboration with the DfID supported trust fund: Disaster Recovery and Social Protection Reforms in Pakistan, through the State Bank of Pakistan with a goal of creating a dialogue around financial literacy and encouraging further adoption of technology based payment mechanisms. The audience for the dissemination activities are provincial level stakeholders (governments, academia, commercial Banks and private sector, civil society, and international development partners). Within the governments the participants come from the Departments of Planning, Finance, Education, Health and Social Welfare.

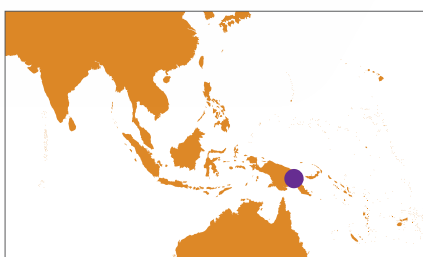


RAPID SOCIAL RESPONSE



SUPPORT TO NEW AND IMPROVED SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LABOR SYSTEMS

PAPUA NEW GUINEA



Population, total	7,013,829 (2011)
GNI per capita, Atlas method (current US\$)	1,480 (2011)

RSR Funding:

US\$ 300,000

Associated IDA Project:

Urban Youth Employment Project (US\$ 16 million)

Partners:

Korean Trust Fund (Republic of Korea), PNG LNG

TOWARDS EVIDENCE-BASED POLICY-MAKING ON YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

RSR is strengthening the government's capacity to implement and evaluate the impacts of a youth employment project that aims to increase the aspirations and future earnings of 17,500 disadvantaged urban youth.

CHALLENGE

The Papua New Guinea Urban Youth Employment Project (UYEP) is a US\$ 15.8 million IDA-financed operation that commenced in the capital, Port Moresby, and will run over five years. With the initiative, the government is hoping to make a difference in the lives of young, disadvantaged and unemployed people by giving them a chance to acquire skills and gain work experience. The project provides life skills training, short-term public works employment and on-the-job skills training in partnership with the public and private sector.

During the preparation phase of UYEP, it became apparent that the project management would benefit from additional capacity building and technical support to develop a robust monitoring system and implement the targeting and impact evaluation.

APPROACH

Funds from RSR enabled the rapid deployment of technical expertise to build the monitoring and reporting capacity of the Port Moresby city authority and to develop baseline and eligibility screening surveys and procedures for determining the admission of youth into UYEP. These activities were executed by a World Bank task team on behalf of the project's implementing agency, the National Capital District Commission.

RSR also supported the development of a robust impact evaluation of UYEP. The evaluation, which is randomized in its design, collected information on whether the program's components led to better jobs, and the extent to which participants were less likely to engage in criminal activities as compared to those who did not participate. Bi-annual consultations with community leaders on how well UYEP is addressing the needs of youth trainees will provide valuable feedback on progress and allow for a cross-check to increase the validity of the evaluation.

This is the first time that the government has developed a training and employment program specifically for young people. The impact evaluation is helping to establish whether the approach was appropriate and allowing the city authority and central



government to make more informed decisions on youth and employment issues in the future.

In addition to RSR, the monitoring and evaluation components of UYEP received funding from the Korean Trust Fund, IDA as well as the private sector joint venture PNG LNG.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RESULTS

- Designed a comprehensive impact evaluation strategy and carried out a baseline study for the evaluation of the project
- Strengthened social accountability of the project through the development of a transparent eligibility screening mechanism for admission to UYEP, and the establishment of a grievance redress mechanism
- *Associated IDA Project: Urban Youth Employment Project (US\$ 16 million)*
 - Creates 480,000 labor days for 10,500 Youth Job Corps participants, of which 70 percent are from the poorest 40 percent of the National Capital District and 33 percent are women

RWANDA



RAPID SOCIAL RESPONSE



SUPPORT TO NEW AND IMPROVED SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LABOR SYSTEMS



Population, total	10.94 million (2011)
Poverty headcount ratio at \$2 per day (PPP) as percent of population:	82 (2011)
GNI per capita, Atlas method (current US\$)	570 (2011)

RSR Funding:

US\$ 2,191,995

Associated IDA Projects:

Support to Social Protection System (US\$ 40 million), Second Support to Social Protection System (US\$ 50 million, approved in March 2013), Third Community Living Standards Grant (US\$ 6 million)

SUPPORTING THE EXPANSION OF SOCIAL PROTECTION

RSR helped to identify and resolve some of the key implementation challenges of the National Social Protection Strategy and laid the groundwork for the expansion of Rwanda's largest social safety net program. The technical assistance funded by RSR paved the way for two programmatic operations totaling US\$ 90 million in Development Policy Grants from IDA.

CHALLENGE

Nearly 1,000 days away from the target year of 2015, Rwanda has made notable progress towards some of the Millennium Development Goals, as witnessed by the two thirds drop in child mortality and the attainment of near-universal primary school enrollment.¹ But the country's rapid population growth combined with sustained high food prices and the adverse impacts of economic and climatic shocks presents serious concerns.

Over a decade ago, the government and donors launched several initiatives for poverty reduction. In the absence of a defined social protection policy or strategy, interventions remained poorly targeted and fragmented across government institutions with no firm coordination framework. This rendered them inefficient in reducing poverty and buffering against shocks.

APPROACH

Since 2005, the social protection sector has evolved significantly in Rwanda. RSR supported the country's first social safety net assessment, which helped to define and solve some of the implementation issues of the new National Protection Strategy (approved in 2011). The assessment analyzed and identified gaps in a number of policy areas related to the fast-developing social sector, such as, cash transfers, social insurance, targeting, decentralization and harmonization, management information systems' requirements and design, and thus helped the government to improve and prioritize social protection.

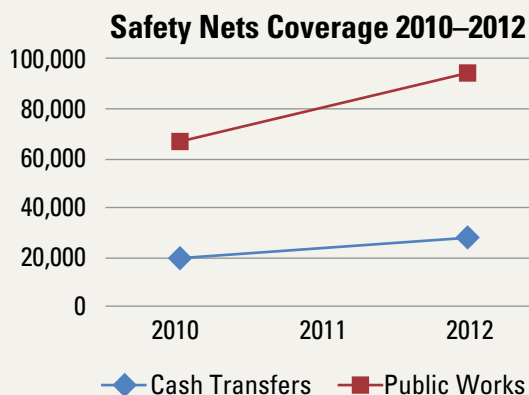
RSR also assisted in the evaluation of the country's largest safety net program, Vision 2020 Umurenge Program (VUP), which combines direct cash transfers, public works and micro-credit interventions to benefit the most vulnerable segments of the Rwandan poor. In addition, RSR supported the development of beneficiary and administrative databases, the training of VUP staff, and the design and implementation of a management information system.

¹ World Bank (2010). Liberia Youth, Employment, Skills Project Appraisal Document. Washington DC.

Elements of the Evolving Coordinated System for Social Protection in RWANDA:

- Social protection has a strong and evolving coordination structure under a single ministry with policy oversight for the main SP programs.
- The sector has a systems approach, including built-in mechanisms for targeting, graduation and management information system
- There are structured implementation arrangements for the ministry, agency level and local governments, and subnational administrations

Number of Beneficiaries of Social Safety Net Programs in Rwanda, 2010–2012



All together, these RSR-funded activities helped Vision 2020 Umurenge to expand, so that it can cover more families without jeopardizing fiscal sustainability

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RESULTS

- Provided support to the redesign of the Vision 2020 Umurenge Program (VUP), the country's largest safety net program
- Helped VUP cover (as of July 2012) nearly half of the country's 416 geographical sectors, up from just 30 when it was launched in 2008, with the number of beneficiaries growing from less than 10,000 to over half a million.
- Developed policy guidelines for linking social protection with disaster risk management
- *Associated IDA Projects: Support to Social Protection System (US\$ 40 million), Second Support to Social Protection System (US\$ 50 million, approved March 22, 2013) and Third Community and Living Standards Grant (US\$ 6 million)*





RAPID SOCIAL RESPONSE



TOGO

SUPPORT TO NEW AND IMPROVED SOCIAL PROTECTION AND LABOR SYSTEMS



Population, total	6.155 million (2011)
Poverty headcount ratio at \$2 per day (PPP) as percent of population:	69 (2006)
GNI per capita, Atlas method (current US\$)	570 (2011)

RSR Funding:

US\$ 592,505

Associated IDA Projects:

Community Development and Safety Nets Project (US\$ 14 million),
Community Development Project
Additional Financing (US\$ 9 million)

Partners:

ILO, UNDP, UNICEF

FIRST STEPS TOWARDS AN EFFICIENT SAFETY NET SYSTEM

Two RSR grants provided Togo with essential building blocks of the country's budding safety net systems and catalyzed resources from IDA. Based on the results of the analytical work and the capacity building activities financed by the RSR grants, the Government of Togo elaborated its first national social protection policy and developed public works and cash-transfer programs.

CHALLENGE

Togo has made considerable progress in the past years following successful legislative elections in 2007 and recent economic growth resulting from better rainfall and increased cereal production. Yet significant challenges remain: Togo's is one of the poorest countries in the world with a per capita GDP of 570 in 2011 (according to the World Bank's Atlas methodology), and a ranking of 139 out of 169 countries in the 2010 UNDP Human Development Index.¹

APPROACH

In response to a number of crises that affected the country in recent years, the government decided to build fiscally sustainable and targeted safety nets system to reduce the most severe poverty and halt its adverse impact on the country's growth.

RSR contributed to the development of the safety net system by supporting the development of the national Social Protection Strategy, and helping in the design and implementation of new targeted programs on cash transfers and public works. The activities financed by RSR were part of a broader program, supported by all major development partners in Togo, and under the leadership of Ministry of Employment.

Specifically, RSR provided a technical assistance grant to develop a public works program and a cash transfer pilot under the IDA Community Development and Safety Nets Project. The cash transfer pilot is being implemented in close collaboration with UNICEF, which is co-financing an impact evaluation of the cash transfer component. The grant also financed activities to increase the capacity of the government, in particular the Ministry of Social Action, to better implement and monitor the social safety net system.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RESULTS

- Designed a public works program, including beneficiary eligibility criteria, institutional and administrative arrangements, etc.
- Designed a cash transfer program, including computer-assisted monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system, payment systems and geographical targeting schemes.
- Developed a comprehensive national social protection strategy (NSPS), addressing efficiency, and financial sustainability concerns
 - Government of Togo elaborated and validated its first national social protection policy
- Informed IDA-financed cash transfer and public works projects, and Poverty Reduction Strategy of 2012–2016
- *Associated IDA Projects: Community Development Project Additional Financing (US\$ 9 million) and Community Development and Safety Nets Project (US\$ 14 million) Complimentary Financing: Japanese Social Development Fund (JSDF) grant of US\$ 2.55 million*
 - Creates 1,400,000 work days for 35,000 workers (40 days per worker), of which 40 percent are women
 - Protects about 62,000 poor children in 180 schools from hunger
 - Provides cash-transfers to over 11,000 poor households with young children who are malnourished or vulnerable to malnutrition

¹ World Bank (2012). Togo Community Development and Safety Nets Project Appraisal Document, Washington, DC.





THEME 2: Increased Learning and Knowledge Sharing for Social Protection Service Delivery

RSR raises awareness on how to increase coverage of social protection in low income countries through South-South learning initiatives and the development of communities of practice. RSR also helps to create new diagnostic techniques that can benefit individual countries or have a global impact on social safety net systems and poor people's access to basic services.



Latin America and the Caribbean: A Toolkit for Nutrition

South-South Learning: Experiences from Arusha, Addis Ababa, Bangalore and Hyderabad

Social Protection and the Effects of Climate Change: Global Lessons



RAPID SOCIAL RESPONSE



LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

INCREASED LEARNING AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING FOR SOCIAL PROTECTION SERVICE DELIVERY



RSR Funding:

US\$ 256,000

A TOOLKIT FOR NUTRITION

RSR supported the development of a toolkit that offers policy-makers and program administrators in Latin America and the Caribbean cost-effective tools to help protect children and their mothers from malnutrition.

CHALLENGE

Since 2008, countries in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) have grappled with the global financial crisis and food price volatility. Coupled with the region's propensity for natural disasters, the impacts on the nutritional status of the general population have been severe, and acutely so for poor women and children.

An RSR-supported assessment of crisis-response policies and nutrition programs in LAC revealed that most tend to overlook the needs of mothers and young children. Under-nutrition from pregnancy until age two—the first 1,000 days—lessens the survival rates of children and may cause lifelong physical and cognitive damages. Yet, the respective policies and programs in LAC are either poorly targeted or not prioritized, or the interventions used are not appropriate. This is evidenced by a sustained high prevalence of anemia and stunting in LAC's poorest countries and in some of its middle income countries where the level of economic inequality is high.

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APPROACH

The RSR-devised toolkit offers policy-makers and practitioners in LAC a framework for decision-making on how to safeguard the nutritional status of mothers and children, especially in times of crisis.

The toolkit provides specific policy guidance on food security and promotion of healthy growth and motherhood, and suggests policy solutions for the prevention and treatment of micronutrient deficiencies and infectious diseases. It also advises on cross-cutting issues such as, targeting, multi-sectoral coordination, and monitoring and evaluation.

Recommendations include mainstreaming nutrition in development programs, and scaling up and intensifying those programs in times of crisis. In addition, program administrators are encouraged to collaborate with colleagues across such sectors as, health, nutrition, agriculture, water and sanitation, and social protection. These RSR recommendations integrate best practices with local conditions on the ground, and readily link to disaster-related crises given the geographic inclination of the region.

To share the experiences in LAC, the toolkit was officially launched at "Protecting and Promoting the Nutrition of Mothers and Children Second Regional Workshop,"

a South-South learning event held in Panama City in December 2012. Here, high-level representatives and policy practitioners gathered with experts from international and non-governmental organizations.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RESULTS

- Finalized an inventory of international recommendations and best practices
- Summarized best practices in case studies in collaboration with IADB, INCAP, PAHO, UNICEF and WFP and developed country-specific recommendations
- Completed participatory assessments and an inventory of the nutritional crises and emergency responses in 12 LAC countries, including Bolivia, Colombia, Dominica, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, St. Lucia and St. Vincent
- Developed a web-based toolkit
- Supported South-South learning, 30 representatives from 11 countries in the LAC region attended event as well as 15 representatives from international organizations



VOICES

"This study allows the Red Cross to realize that the attention in the first 1,000 days is a weakness of the emergency response in the country."

*Ing. Mirna Zelaya,
Executive Secretary, Red Cross
El Salvador*

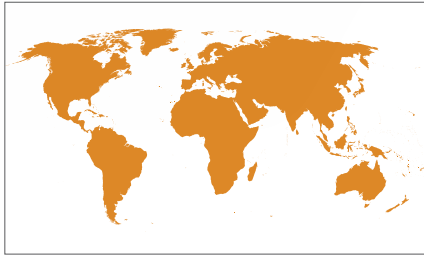


RAPID SOCIAL RESPONSE



SOUTH-SOUTH LEARNING

INCREASED LEARNING AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING FOR SOCIAL PROTECTION SERVICE DELIVERY



RSR Funding:

US\$ 2,172,887

EXPERIENCES FROM ARUSHA, ADDIS ABABA, BANGALORE AND HYDERABAD

Increasingly, governments have come to recognize social protection and labor system-building as a sound investment to reduce poverty and vulnerability, and they are now looking for guidance. One of the outcomes of this interest has been the exchange of expertise and resources between governments, organizations and individuals in developing nations. South-South learning is now gaining importance and momentum in the development arena as one of the main drivers of solutions.

RSR moved quickly to identify entry points and transform the expressed interest of policy-makers and practitioners into concrete actions; four large-scale South-South learning forums were held, covering social protection from a unique angle at each. “Making Public Works Work,” the first forum, responded to growing demand among officials from low income countries and fragile states for greater understanding of how to design public works projects and implement them in a variety of circumstances, such as, sudden shocks, chronic poverty and the aftermath of violent conflict. The second, “Building Resilient Safety Nets,” brought forward, despite the appearance of running against conventional wisdom, the advantage of a systems approach in low-capacity settings. “Implementing Social Protection Programs: Better Processes, Better Technology, Better Results,” heralded modern technology as a means to streamlines services, create efficiencies and reach the most elusive poor. The latest forum, “The Role of Labor and Social Assistance Policies,” provided a timely discussion to the job crisis.

In composite, these RSR-supported events covered basic blocks of a social protection and labor system and furthered general understanding.

“Why safety nets?” and “Why South-South learning in the form of forums?”

Safety nets and transfers have a proven record of positive immediate impact on the poorest and most vulnerable members of society, with resources put directly into the intended hands and access to education and health services made possible. And, yet, it would take a threefold crisis to dispel the notion of safety nets as a luxury.

The advent of the Food, Fuel and Financial Crisis in 2008 made evident that having a strong safety net in place was a prerequisite to having an effective response. Safety net spending, for the first time, became viewed as “investment expenditure” capable of producing returns both in the short run and medium term. Clearly, interest has been spurred across low and middle income countries as well as fragile states in building resilient safety nets that can both respond to crises and reduce poverty and vulnerability.

Governments in low income countries and fragile states have—for all their budget constraints—begun to identify fiscal space in the meager budgets for safety net programs, and they are looking for guidance. South-South learning, as compared to a stratified and increasingly complex architecture of international aid, has proven to be an efficient driver of innovation.

Forums—among the seven basic instruments of SSL (forums and conferences, communities of practice, dialogues, study tours, expert visits, peer consultations and twinning arrangements), present the best opportunities for a large number of stakeholders to engage on a specific topic with a high level of interaction. Their general schema is comprised of plenary sessions where country delegations and experts discuss measures they have implemented (what worked and what did not), break-out/parallel sessions and country case studies allowing for presentations geared toward smaller groups with space to engage in dialogue, global cafés which offer a more intimate and informal discussion of strategies around a particular case study or issue, and field visits for participants see social protection and labor policies in action.

Arusha, Addis Ababa, Bangalore and Hyderabad

Arusha, Tanzania was the site of the first RSR forum in June of 2010. “Making Public Works Work” was attended by 225 participants from low income countries and fragile states and a few middle income countries. It focused on showcasing first-hand country experiences in the implementation of public works programs, and included a mix of plenary events, breakout sessions and field trips (organized by Tanzania Social Action Fund) to ensure a solid conceptual understanding supported by “hands on” learning and information exchange. Practitioners from participating countries and institutions shared experiences of “what worked” and key constraints.

Prior to the forum, RSR supported a series of sessions using the World Bank’s Global Development Learning Network (GDLN) system to help participants prepare for the forum. The GDLN sessions linked countries from Africa and South Asia with public works programs that were either ongoing or under design. Sessions were organized every three/four weeks between December 2009 and April 2010 around key design features, such as, defining clear objectives (selecting the right targeting method, setting the wage rate, determining the right labor intensity) and operational aspects, like, conducting a quick yet valid environment assessment and fiduciary aspects. Each session also produced a case study.

After the forum, the generated wealth of information was captured and disseminated through a public works toolkit, describing step-by-step how to design and implement public works programs to the broadest possible audience, featuring the case studies presented at the forum. It also laid the groundwork for the formation of a Community of Practice (CoP) that continues the process of sharing knowledge and expertise.

One year later, parties of four from each of 54 countries flocked to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia to learn of the emerging directions in safety nets. A mix of practitioners, policy-makers and civil society staff hailed from widely different political economies, understanding the need for social protection systems and looking for “know-how” for best-fit development. “Sharing Experiences to Promote Resilient Safety Nets In Low Income Countries and Fragile States” picked up where the first forum left off and prompted innovation in forum format, the Global Café.

The forum was structured around three themes: building foundations for social protection systems, addressing financing, and promoting transparency and accountability. Plenary sessions, country case studies, panel discussions and a field trip filled the agenda. The all-day field trip served to illustrate the theoretical concepts discussed during the forum in a realistic setting, by visiting four sites where Productive Safety Net Program (PSNP) activities were being implemented, including: soil and water conservation, irrigation, rural road construction, micro lending and water diversion sites. In tandem, the delegates had the opportunity to bring forth contrasting views on the implementation of similar programs in their respective countries.

“The presentations during the Global Café were very informative. They helped interact with people who are really involved in defining strategies and implementing the programs.”
— Addis Ababa forum participant

To provoke conversations among small groups of country and donor practitioners, the Global Café sprouted. Sessions were anchored around a specific country case study, which was presented by a table host, drawing on prepared country profiles.

Trending from forums is the ever-important communities of practice (CoP). CoPs attract participants from a many disciplines and geographic areas to share and exchange knowledge on a particular subject. They offer “seasoned” immediacy to an ongoing dialogue through either formal channels with a detailed mission, structure and funding or informally through peer-to-peer exchanges. As a collaborative space, the meetings occur through online forums, videoconferencing, blogs and face-to-face meetings

By the end of the forum in Arusha, a new community of practice (CoP) had emerged, building on the experience from Latin American and Caribbean countries, where such an initiative was launched six years ago to foster continued interaction between safety net program practitioners. The new CoP for Africa, which later received support from RSR, has since flourished through a series of regional videoconferences, which were followed by face-to-face meetings in Tanzania and United Kingdom. An

online CoP is also under development to provide an additional and continuous platform for interaction.

In the third year (2012), two forums broached completely different disciplines within social protection. In the first, “Implementing Social Protection Programs: Better Processes, Better Technology, Better Results,” RSR teamed up with the International Institute for Information Technology in Bangalore, India to target developing countries across Asia and hold a three-day learning forum around the steps of social protection program implementation.

These governments are increasingly asking questions, like,

When do certain technologies make sense in terms of increased access for the poor as well as reduced costs to governments? How are enrollment and transaction processes designed to ensure minimum leakages and exclusion errors? What is the value of upgrading the management information system (MIS)? What are the possible gains from integrating delivery and monitoring systems of different programs from the point of view of both the beneficiaries and the government?

The RSR-supported forum focused on identification of beneficiaries, enrollment and eligibility determination, payments and transactions, and MIS and integration. Global overview presentations on each theme were fleshed out with detailed country case studies by national practitioners, and the case studies were framed in a way that the participants could easily see the costs and benefits of using different available solutions in their own countries. In parallel to the forum, a vendor expo offered hands-on exposure and insights to the latest developments in IT delivery systems in social protection programs across India and other parts of Asia, such as, biometric identification, electronic health platforms, smart cards and e-payments.

The location, Bangalore, allowed the participants to learn from the experience of India where some of the world’s most sophisticated software is built and pioneered. They visited Bangalore One, a one-stop government e-platform where citizens can interact with multiple government programs electronically, and the Unique ID Authority of India Technology Center (UIDAI), which performs 100 trillion verifications every 24 hours to ensure that each of the day’s 1 million new enrollees is distinct from the 200 million people already identified. Eventually, the program will cover 1.2 billion people.¹ For participants from solidly middle income countries (Malaysia) to fragile states (Timor Leste and Afghanistan), the forum provided a unique opportunity for practitioners from social welfare ministries, health authorities, rural development ministries and planning agencies to establish relationships and to learn from others with similar implementation challenges, and bring ideas home.

“*The Role of Labor and Social Assistance Policies*,” the latest forum which took place in Hyderabad, India, addressed the importance of well-functioning markets and social protection systems for helping workers and their families withstand job losses and declines in incomes.

The event drew about 230 policy-makers, academics, bilateral staff and implementing agencies’ staff, with almost two-thirds from low income countries. They were able to share knowledge and best practices, interact, network and discuss issues like how to train and connect job seekers with employers, how to support self-employment and entrepreneurship, and how to link jobs with social assistance programs.

“We learned through discussions over coffee and over South Indian delicacies, through ‘global cafes’ on topics where tables of 8 or 10 practitioners exchanged ideas, through bus trips to rural villages to see how programs succeed (or fail) on the ground, and through globally connected “Google hangout” sessions (where, for instance, social entrepreneurs in Nairobi and Bangalore interacted with their peers and the audience in Hyderabad while fielding questions from Vietnam and Cameroon). We saw an American entrepreneur based in Bangalore, who started a website for matching informal sector job-seekers with employers, being mobbed by policymakers from the Middle East and Sub-Saharan Africa trying to understand what elements could be relevant for their countries... a journey toward becoming a global community of policymakers and practitioners, which, as it deepens, can harness the granular knowledge present in each practitioner toward creating tailored solutions for us all.

Blog by Arup Banerji, 267 Journeys: The Wonders of South-South Exchange

The five-day agenda covered four themes: expanding opportunities for the self-employed; facilitating transitions into wage employment for disadvantaged workers; building resilience by managing risks in the labor market, with a cross-cutting agenda on technology; and, using technology to expand opportunities and overcome implementation challenges. The Center for Economic and Social Studies prepared fieldtrips.

Each morning, “review and preview” sessions were offered to reinforce knowledge and lessons, and eye-opening “technology” virtually connected participants from different parts of the world and broadcast them through Facebook (facilitated by Jobs Knowledge Platform).

One of the emerging lessons from all fora was that no single program or segmented system is able to address the complex and demanding problems of development. Working together in

¹ Blog by Alan Gelb and Julia Clark (10/11/12). Technology in the Tropics: A Visit to Bangalore. Center for Global Development.

cross-sectoral events helped policy-makers from different parts of governments build mutual understanding and assemble the initial blocks of future integrated social protection and labor systems.

In a little over 1,000 days, RSR has been able to reach out to a large number of social protection policy-makers and

practitioners. Its support of forums has created new and exciting communities of practice, ones that will better inform the fast-evolving concepts of building social protection and labor systems suitable to individual country contexts.

ACCOMPLISHMENT AND RESULTS

Making Public Works Work, Arusha, Tanzania, June 14–18, 2010

- Developed case studies during the GDLN sessions
- Drafted and finalized toolkit
- Established Communities of Practice in the Africa, East Asia Pacific and South Asia regions
- Commissioned *Public Works as a Safety Net: Design, Evidence and Implementation*, a flagship publication drawing on rich evidence base including program documentation, policy papers, peer-reviewed publications and empirical data from over 40 countries
- Financed structure of Forum, generating a platform from which to replicate and make improvements going forward

Sharing Experiences to Promote Resilient Safety Nets In Low Income Countries and Fragile States, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, May 30–June 3, 2011

- Created “Global Café”
- Established a new Community of Practice

Implementing Social Protection Programs: Better Processes, Better Technology, Better Results,” Bangalore, India, September 4–6, 2012

- Established informal peer network, being used by participants
- Produced DVD for participants, comprising background papers, conference presentations and session materials

The Role of Labor and Social Assistance Policies, Hyderabad, India, October 30–November 3, 2012

- Compiled World Bank-ILO database of labor market and social protection policies implemented in response to global financial crisis, with a report describing collected information and results
- Edited volume on the labor market impacts of the financial crisis
- Established Data Warehouse on Labor Markets and a database with key labor indicators, including youth and an update of ongoing “JobsWatch” monitoring of recent employment and earnings trends in labor markets in several developing countries
- Contributed to developing capacity in ministries, implementing agencies and institutions responsible for social protection and labor programs



Making Public Works Work, Arusha, Tanzania, June 14–18, 2010

RSR Funding: US\$ 513,134

Partners: Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF)

- 225+ participants from 44 countries
- 9 plenary sessions with 13 parallel sessions
- 34 country studies presented from 21 countries
- Field Trips (organized by Tanzania Social Action Fund)
- Multilingual: English, French, Spanish

Sharing Experiences to Promote Resilient Safety Nets In Low Income Countries and Fragile States, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, May 30–une 3, 2011

RSR Funding: US\$ 757,753

Partners: DFID, GTZ, ILO, UNICEF, WFP, International Policy Center for Inclusive Growth

- 260 participants from 54 countries
- 7 plenary sessions with 11 parallel sessions
- 30 case studies presented from 24 countries
- Field Trips
- Multilingual: Arabic, English, French, Russian, Spanish

Implementing Social Protection Programs: Better Processes, Better Technology, Better Results, Bangalore, India, September 4–6, 2012

RSR Funding: US\$ 450,000

Partners: International Institute for Information Technology

- 160+ participants from 19 countries
- 8 plenary sessions
- 17 country studies presented from 10 countries
- 2 field trips
- ICT Service Provider Vendor Expo

The Role of Labor and Social Assistance Policies, Hyderabad, India, October 30–November 3, 2012

Rapid Social Response Funding: US\$ 450,000

Partners: Center for Economic and Social Studies (CESS), Government of Germany (GIZ), Institute for the Study of Labor (IZA), Government of South Korea (Korea Polytechnics), Jobs Knowledge Platform (JKP)

- 230 participants from 66 countries
- 3 plenary sessions with 12 parallel sessions
- 30 country studies presented from 24 countries
- Field Trips
- Multilingual: English, French, Russian, Spanish

Communities of Practice

Africa Cash Transfers and Conditional Cash Transfers

- Launched in December 2011
- 11 member countries: Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Nigeria, Sao Tome & Principe, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia
- 5 videoconferences: Targeting, Community Participation in Cash Transfers, Community-based Compliance and Monitoring, Payments, Governance
- 2 face-to-face meetings: Tanzania and Kenya
- Web-based communication platforms



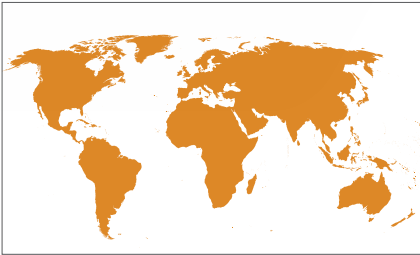


RAPID SOCIAL RESPONSE



SOCIAL PROTECTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE

INCREASED LEARNING AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING FOR SOCIAL PROTECTION SERVICE DELIVERY



RSR Funding:

US\$ 375,000

GLOBAL LESSONS

Climate change hits low-income countries the hardest. Social protection systems can help to cushion against the negative impacts on the poor and vulnerable, and RSR has supported a “hands on” toolkit to show practitioners and policy-makers just how.

CHALLENGE

Climate change and the natural disasters that follow deepen poverty. The increase in unpredictable and intense droughts, floods, heat waves and storms worsens the lives of people who live in fragile homes, have few assets and are subject to poor health and nutrition. Large numbers of people are pushed into transitory poverty when crises hit and the chronic poor—who usually have limited capacity for response and adaptation—sink deeper into poverty. As people and infrastructure become more and more vulnerable to disasters and climatic shocks, costs to individuals and countries escalate.

Today, only a handful of social protection systems are climate- and disaster-responsive. Yet, they have contributed significantly to helping vulnerable populations mitigate risks associated with disasters, as well as cope with and recover from them. In these cases, the design, scalability and cross-sectoral coordination of social protection programs led to more timely and effective responses, and proved to be sound economic investments.

APPROACH

An RSR-supported toolkit explores options for mainstreaming climate change adaptation and disaster response into social protection programs, along with operational guidance and tools, training and outreach—components that make the package easily accessible to users. In addition, the project compiled experiences from countries that have integrated disaster preparedness and climate change adaptation measures into social protection programs and shared those as lessons learned.

The *Temporary Employment Program* in Mexico is an example of how a social protection program can systematically respond to low and high frequency climate and disaster shocks by providing temporary jobs that allow poor people to cope with crises and build resilience for the future, while also supporting early recovery and reconstruction efforts.

Ethiopia’s *Productive Safety Net Program* responds on a national scale not only to chronic food insecurity but also to shorter-term shocks caused by natural



hazards, mainly droughts. The program includes a number of innovative features, such as, the use of a combination of direct cash transfers and cash/food payments for labor on public works schemes, a sophisticated contingency financing system and a pilot weather-based crop insurance-for-work scheme for the poor.

Where countries are starting to grapple with the challenges of climate change, the RSR project has provided support. In *Mozambique*, technical assistance was provided at the policy and program level. As a result, social protection became a key pillar for climate change adaptation in the new, government-led Climate Change Strategy, and climate change and disaster concerns were incorporated into the new Productive Social Protection Program.

The operational guidance notes and toolkit, drawing on the case studies and global research, include modules on designing scalable and flexible social protection programs that can increase coverage in response to climate disasters; developing climate-responsive targeting systems; adapting communications, payments and monitoring and evaluation systems; and, developing institutional capacity and coordination.

The toolkit will be disseminated through different fora focusing on social protection, social development and disaster risk management, such as, the World Bank's Social Safety Net Core Course, South-South learning exchanges, a forthcoming web platform supported by the World Bank, and other events and training aimed at relevant professionals.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RESULTS

- Generated five case studies of best practice, detailing how social protection programs can and have responded to disasters and climate change, highlighting challenges and successful instruments and approaches
- Provided technical assistance to two IDA countries, Mozambique and Tanzania, for incorporating climate change considerations at the policy and program level in emerging social protection systems
- Developed an operational toolkit, offering guidance on how to prepare social protection programs to manage disasters and climate change
- Created a learning and simulation game on the role of social protection for climate and disaster risk (see text box below)

Placing Government Officials in the Shoes of Poor Farmers Subject to Climate Risk

In Tanzania, RSR contributed to making the IDA-supported Social Safety Net Project, implemented by Tanzania Action Fund, "climate-smart" by fostering dialogue with the government and development partners. The discussions covered technical options for mainstreaming climate change adaptation and disaster risk management into program design and developing the "Safety Nets and Climate Change Game." The latter serves as a sensitization and awareness tool for communities and stakeholders at all levels and is designed for global use.

The game allows the participants to experience the objectives of safety net programs first-hand and thereby gain emotionally-grounded insights on how a safety net can contribute to climate resilience and graduation out of poverty. It is a dynamic tool that captures decisions and their consequences, as mediated by external factors (e.g., heavy rains and occurrence of pest), while at the same time allowing the player to experience the actual objectives of a safety net, including smoothing of consumption during the lean season, the importance of investing in children's education, income provision through labor as well as building of community assets.



In the game, each participant represents a household within a village that may or may not have access to a safety net. As a result, players are able to contrast and compare, and see with their own eyes how access to a productive safety net program can positively influence choices and outcomes. A debriefing session follows the game to capture the main lessons learned and explores challenges to implementation.

After successful piloting, the game is being prepared for roll-out nationwide in Tanzania. The goal is to help communities understand the benefits of a safety net program, and how it can help to build productive assets that increase their own resilience to climate events.

A version of the game has been incorporated into the set of training tools that are regularly used by the World Bank Safety Nets team for training and learning purposes. It has so far been rolled out at the World Bank Social Safety Nets Core Courses in Washington DC and in Canberra, Australia, where it was extremely well received.



THEME 3: Protecting Access to Basic Services to the Most Vulnerable in Times of Crisis

As crises hit and threaten livelihoods and human capital, RSR's emergency window for limited-scale delivery of SPL benefits and services can be opened to prevent irreversible harm to the most vulnerable populations. RSR projects help to provide nutrition benefits, particularly to young children and their mothers, waivers for school fees and health services, and the required administrative support for efficient service delivery.



Haiti: Turning the Tide on Gender-Based Violence



RAPID SOCIAL RESPONSE



PROTECTING ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES TO THE THE MOST VULNERABLE IN TIMES OF CRISIS

HAITI



Population, total	10.12 million (2011)
GNI per capita, Atlas method (current US\$)	700 (2011)

RSR Funding:

US\$ 580,591

TURNING THE TIDE ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

As part of RSR's crises window, RSR worked with two partner organizations in five camps for internally displaced persons to provide support to survivors of sexual and gender-based violence and prevent further abuse. Using a vetted community-based approach, the activity improved access to and delivery of services to survivors, and enhanced and expanded the growing dialogue around violence against women and gender equality in Haiti.

CHALLENGE

Sexual and gender-based violence has been a persistent and disturbing problem in Haiti for many decades. A 2005 Demographic Health Survey found that 27 percent of women had experienced physical violence and 22 percent sexual violence at some point in their lifetime.

In the devastating earthquake of 2010, more than a million people were forced to move into camps for internally displaced persons (IDP). In the overcrowded camps, without access to adequate food, health services, security or economic opportunity, women and children became even more vulnerable to violence and assault. Post-disaster reporting of rape increased almost three-fold, and anecdotal evidence indicated that survival (or transactional) sex was rampant among young women.¹ Three years later, hundreds of thousands of people are still homeless and live in unsafe camps.



Sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) not only violates women's human rights and affects victims' physical and emotional health, it also holds Haiti back in terms of development. SGBV hampers women's productivity, reduces human capital and undermines economic growth.

APPROACH

A World Bank task team worked through a community-based organization established by and for rape survivors in Port-au-Prince—KOFIVIV—and its sister organization—MADRE—an international organization focusing on women's human rights issues. The activity built on KOFIVIV's well-established approach of empowering rape survivors to become community outreach workers and peer counselors. Most of the men and women who had been trained by KOFIVIV prior to the earthquake ended up in camps for IDP and were empowered to become advocates within their new camp community.

With financial support from RSR and as part of RSR's emergency window for limited-scale support to delivery of services, the World Bank task team, MADRE and KOFIVIV designed and implemented a project to strengthen KOFIVIV's capacity in outreach, advocacy and policy dialogue. It had three components:

- An outreach component promoted awareness and prevention of sexual and gender-based violence. This included distribution of sexual offense forensic evidence kits (commonly known as "rape test kits") and other basic health and sanitation goods, along with media campaigns for behavioral change targeting communities in Port-au-Prince.
- Technical assistance strengthened the institutional capacity of KOFIVIV to provide outreach services and improve project coordination, financial management, and monitoring and evaluation (led by MADRE).
- The project enhanced women's civic participation and contributed to law legal reforms by building coalitions and networks with the government, international institutions, the media and NGOs working for women's rights in Haiti.

- Helped build the abilities and confidence of the more inexperienced outreach workers through mentorship and peer-support network
- Distributed rape test kits and health kits to more than 7,000 women, using innovative approaches and training on human rights

Building Technical Capacity of KOFIVIV

- Improved project coordination, as evidenced by separate units, for example, to cover outreach and coordination efforts with police, hospitals and the media

Enhancing Women's Civic Participation for Addressing GBV

- Trained approximately 200-300 participants from Haitian civil society, government, police and international organizations on the issuance of medical certificates and stigma faced by victims, resulting in:
 - Stronger connection with and interaction among the police, ministries and legal system that led to improved access to medical facilities and justice for survivors
 - Leaders of KOFIVIV now often called upon by the media to give their expertise on SGBV, women's rights and the power of grassroots movements
- Transformed KOFIVIV from operating in crisis mode to becoming the lead convener for efforts to address SGBV in Haiti

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ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND RESULTS

Promoting Awareness and Prevention of SGBV

- A qualitative survey after the project indicated high levels of community knowledge on SGBV
- Trained over 300 community outreach workers, with majority reported feeling more confident, strong and better supported to fulfill their role of preventing and responding to SGBV

VOICES

from KOFIVIV outreach workers in camps for internally displaced persons

"Women have started to know their rights; they don't let the men take them for children... Violence has gone down so much that even young men have become scared of girls because they know what will happen to them if they do bad"

"Not only men are not committing sexual violence, but physical violence has gone down too, verbal violence is going down, they can't say whatever they want to women"

"The impact of the project is that men who didn't use to participate are now helping us break down sexual violence against young girls... It is thanks to KOFIVIV these women (who experienced violence) have strength"

¹ Center for Human Rights and Global Justice at the New York University School of Law (2011). Sexual Violence in Haiti's IDP Camps: Results of a Household Survey. <http://www.chrgj.org/press/docs/Haiti%20Sexual%20Violence%20March%202011.pdf>



Project Portfolio: 80 Activities in 40 Countries

THEME		FUNDING AMOUNT (US\$)	START DATE	CLOSING DATE
AFRICA				
BUILDING SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEMS	Burkina Faso—Strengthening Safety Net Response to Crises supports the design and implementation of a cash-transfer program and a feasibility study for a public works programs to support poor and vulnerable people.	500,000	Apr-10	Jun-15
	Cameroon—Strengthening Safety Net Response to Crises supported a thorough inventory and analysis of viable social safety net programs in Cameroon and provided technical assistance for the design of a social protection system which will be scaled up under the new IDA Project and could address the needs of the poor and vulnerable.	550,000	Apr-10	May-13
	Cash Transfers—Design for Scaling Up in Sub-Saharan Africa supported the development of cash transfer programs in Angola, Benin, Lesotho, Mali, Tanzania, and Zambia. The technical assistance reviewed their nascent safety net programs to ensure that the schemes are effective, affordable and anchored in policy frameworks for better coordination, continuity and wider reach.	391,874	Feb-10	May-12
	Cote d' Ivoire—Assessing the Impact of Crises on Human Capital and Laying the Foundations for an Effective Social Safety Net System jump-starts the delivery of basic social services and meet the immediate needs of poor and vulnerable groups.	300,000	Dec-11	Dec-13
	Democratic Republic of Congo—Building Capacity of the Ministry of Social Affairs to Provide Services for Vulnerable Groups aimed to improve the government's ability to protect and serve vulnerable groups during the current crisis and to better prepared for future shocks. The pilot project was cancelled due to the poor quality of the survey to identify beneficiaries, prepared under the associated IDA-financed Street Children Project.	159,370	Feb-11	Jun-12
	Ghana—Cash-Transfers Designed and Brought to Scale financed the development of a common targeting mechanism which allowed for a robust process of identifying the very poorest households and making the data available for use by a range of social protection and poverty reduction programs. This helped enhance efficiency in coordination and sustainability of targeting social protection programs to the very poorest households in Ghana while maximizing impact.	181,322	Apr-10	Jun-12
	Guinea—Strengthening Social Safety Nets in Times of Crises assists the government in laying the foundations of a safety net system that is anchored within a social protection strategy and capable of effectively responding to crises and increasing people's resilience.	400,000	Jul-11	Dec-13
	Kenya—Support for Social Protection supported the government of Kenya in their effort to bring about a systemic change of the social protection system, and deliver more tangible and sustainable results for vulnerable people.	2,427,966	Apr-10	Sep-13
	Lesotho—Social Safety Net Review supported the improvement of the existing safety net system to better protect the poor and vulnerable under crisis. The study analyzed the efficiency of current social safety net programs in reaching the most vulnerable population; and developed policy reform options and provided guidance on how to improve the efficiency of the social safety net system to reach the most vulnerable population.	140,700	Nov-11	May-13
	Liberia—Development of a Crisis Response Social Protection Strategy and Capacity funded a Social Protection Diagnostic Report. The report was a critical first step in the development of a coordinated and comprehensive social protection strategy, which forms an integrated part of the human development pillar of the country's poverty reduction strategy.	288,275	Oct-10	Mar-12
	Liberia—Improving Employment of Vulnerable Youth provided analyses and advice to the government on how to prioritize and sequence employment programs targeting vulnerable youth, while taking market forces into account.	240,000	Nov-11	Jun-13

THEME		FUNDING AMOUNT (US\$)	START DATE	CLOSING DATE
	Mozambique—Developing the Building Blocks for Effective Crisis Response supported the development of labor-intensive public works in 10 arid and semi-arid rural and two urban areas to address the country-specific dynamics of poverty and improve food insecurity. RSR helped to set the direction of the new national public works program by developing and testing criteria for selecting beneficiaries, determining the level of transfers and ascertaining the types of eligible public works.	2,155,000	Nov-10	Dec-12
	Nigeria—Strengthening Social Safety Net assisted the government in improving in the design of different components of the government's financed Social Safety Net Programs and policies, including youth employment, public works and cash transfer safety net interventions. The findings informed the preparation of the US\$300 million Youth Employment & Social Support Operation IDA project.	399,686	Jul-11	Dec-12
	Rwanda—Technical Assistance for Stronger Social Safety Nets helped to identify and resolve some of the key implementation challenges of the national social protection strategy and laid the groundwork for expansion of Rwanda's largest safety net program. The technical assistance funded by RSR paved the way for two programmatic operations.	2,191,995	Apr-10	Dec-13
	Senegal—Developing a Unified and Effective Safety Net supports development of a comprehensive social protection system and explores the feasibility of interventions to build the resilience of households to shocks and crises. One aim is recommending policies and platforms to address the main risks and vulnerabilities, in light of the country's economic and poverty strategies.	291,306	Apr-10	Jun-14
	Sierra Leone—Social Safety Net Support supported the preparation of a Social Protection Assessment reviewing the major social safety net interventions and making recommendations to strengthen the social safety net system.	300,000	Jul-11	Jun-13
	Africa—Social Protection Design and Implementation helped design of cash-transfer programs targeting the chronic poor that can be scaled up to include transitory poor and food-insecure households after a shock. RSR financed in-depth country study on the efficiency and effectiveness of current targeting mechanisms in Mozambique and Malawi and proposed alternatives for improved targeting. The results were disseminated at a workshop attended by representatives of key technical ministries and executing agencies from 17 African countries.	95,827	Apr-10	Apr-12
	Tanzania—Enhancing Crisis Response for the Most Vulnerable Children and Elderly Poor attempted to improve household practices and engender sustainability of livelihoods of the current Community-Based Conditional Cash Transfer beneficiaries. The suppliers of most of the goods that the implementing agency contracted failed to deliver the goods by the set deadlines and that portion of the grant was subsequently cancelled.	626,136	Jul-11	Sep-12
	Togo—Promoting Innovative Crisis-Response Social Protection supported the preparation of the national social protection system capable of supporting vulnerable households during and after systemic and recurrent crises. The project financed a rigorous impact evaluation of the new public works project and provided technical assistance to the Government in implementing and monitoring the national social protection strategy.	283,806	Nov-10	Sep-12
	Togo—Social Safety Net Development supports the Government in developing the building blocks of an efficient and integrated social safety net system.	220,000	Nov-11	Dec-13
	Youth Employment in Africa—The Skill Development-Labor Demand Conundrum built evidence for identifying programs that improve employability and earnings among youth and reduce their vulnerability and risky behavior—knowledge that can improve design of labor-market intervention.	93,719	Mar-10	Apr-12
	Zimbabwe—Public Works Program helped the Ministry of Labor and Social Services to pilot a labor intensive public works program, providing temporary employment opportunities to about 5,000 unemployed people in Zimbabwe, while at the same time building community productive assets which will enhance community livelihood.	1,085,000	Mar-11	Feb-13

THEME		FUNDING AMOUNT (US\$)	START DATE	CLOSING DATE
SHARING KNOWLEDGE	Cash Transfers and Conditional Cash Transfers in Sub-Saharan Africa—A Community of Practitioners (CoP) brought together people concerned with cash and conditional cash transfers to participate in the virtual meetings and face-to-face events. The CoP initially included program managers and officials of 5 countries: Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria and Tanzania. Program managers from Lesotho, Malawi, Uganda, São Tomé e Príncipe, South Sudan, and Zambia as the CoP gained momentum.	450,000	Jun-11	Jun-13
	Liberia and Togo—Experience of Cash-for-Work drew on the experience of the Liberia Cash for Work Project in assisting the Togo Government in identifying key issues and success factors for a new public works intervention.	88,699	Apr-10	Feb-12
	Eastern and Southern Africa—Informal Safety Nets supported the preparation of three case studies, on Côte d'Ivoire, Rwanda and Zimbabwe, to elucidate the interplay among formal and informal safety nets to inform the design of programs in post-conflict and fragile settings.	118,116	Feb-10	Apr-12
CRISIS RESPONSE	Benin and Malawi—Enhancing Institutional Capacity to Design, Implement, and Monitor Nutrition Security Programs enhances countries' ability to respond to and mitigate the nutritional impact of unpredictable economic and climate-related shocks.	385,000	Jul-11	Jun-13
	Ethiopia—Strengthening the Early Warning System helped develop an early warning system to detect malnutrition in the wake of seasonal shocks. The project helped the Ethiopian Health and Nutrition Research Institute too establish a central database to monitor and supervise the regular information flow from the districts to the regions, and enabled a triangulation of food security data for increased validity and for agreement on thresholds for response.	1,021,496	Jul-11	Dec-13
	Gambia—Rapid Response Nutrition Security Improvement Project supports the National Nutrition Agency to promote healthy behaviors for maternal nutrition and child growth and improve access to selected therapeutic and preventive public health nutrition services to vulnerable populations, in particular children under five and pregnant and lactating women in poor rural areas.	3,155,000	Mar-10	Apr-13
	Lesotho—Estimating the Impact of Economic Crises on Education and Skills Development seeks to better understand the role of training, education, and skills in mitigating labor market vulnerability in Lesotho during an economic downturn. The project collected and analyzed latest data to assist the government in better targeting its education and labor market policies towards helping youth and vulnerable groups during a time of economic crisis.	230,000	Apr-10	Dec-12
	Madagascar—Assessing Negative Effects of the Political Crisis on Health and Nutrition Services supported the development of strategies to preserve essential health and nutrition services that protect the health of the population in the short- and medium-term.	397,900	Jun-11	Sep-12
	Madagascar—Development of Tools to Monitor and Mitigate the Effect of Crises on Out-of-School Children supported the development of appropriate mechanisms to mitigate the effects of economic and political crises on vulnerable children.	450,000	Nov-11	Mar-13
	Malawi—Protecting Early Childhood Development supported the government in the design, implementation, and evaluation of strategies to increase access to, and the quality of, 9,000 community-based child care centers across the country.	2,189,471	Mar-11	Nov-12
	Mali—Piloting Effective Early Childhood Development Services assists in the government's response to crises by developing cost-effective early childhood development services for vulnerable children in rural areas.	2,214,200	Oct-10	Dec-13
	Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo—Operations and Capacity Development for Nutrition strengthened the awareness on the need to improve the capacity to implement nutrition interventions at scale.	50,617	Feb-10	Apr-12

THEME		FUNDING AMOUNT (US\$)	START DATE	CLOSING DATE
EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA				
BUILDING SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEMS	Albania—A Functional Review of the Administrative Processes of Ndihma Ekonomike delineated the program's administrative architecture and mechanics by assessing operational aspects, including diagnostics on information and financial flows, functional responsibilities, and institutional capacity.	49,846	Dec-09	Dec-12
	Kyrgyzstan—Rapid Assistance to Improve Social Safety Nets in the Face of Energy Tariff Reforms advised the Agency for Social Protection on amending eligibility rules of the Unified Monthly benefit (a targeted cash assistance) and improving its oversight mechanisms so that households that are eligible under the energy tariff reforms can get easy access to the program.	59,660	Mar-10	Feb-12
	Kyrgyzstan—Enhancement of Targeted Social Assistance aims to strengthen the safety net system to improve its targeting accuracy and coverage, protect the poor efficiently from crises and shocks; and is implemented in an efficient and transparent manner.	260,000	Jul-11	Jan-13
	Tajikistan—Targeting and Enhancing Social Assistance to the Poor supports the development of the first building blocks of a system to deliver aid to the poorest households in Tajikistan, so that the government and donors will have an effective and efficient way to intervene in ordinary times and during crises.	2,724,998	Feb-11	Nov-12
CRISIS RESPONSE	Tajikistan—Protecting and Promoting Access to Maternal and Neonatal Health Services assesses the feasibility of conditional cash or in-kind transfer programs, or a combination, to protect access for the poor to basic maternal and child health services in parts of Soghd Oblast.	400,000	Nov-11	Apr-13
EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC				
BUILDING SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEMS	Mongolia—Monitoring and Evaluation for Social Welfare Programs provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Social Welfare and Labor in enacting revised parameters, including a new process of modeling baseline projections and alternatives to the current social security scheme; developing a savings program for the herders and the informal sector; potentially expanding and restructuring old-age income assistance; and establishing a social security reserve fund.	67,787	Feb-10	Feb-12
	Papua New Guinea—Ensuring Effective Monitoring and Evaluation and Social Accountability for the Urban Youth Employment Project provides capacity-building and oversight so training and public works are targeted to poor applicants and monitored and evaluated rigorously and that social accountability mechanisms are effective.	300,000	Jan-11	Jun-13
	Timor-Leste—Innovation in Developing Effectiveness of Safety Nets supports the Ministry of Social Solidarity in building a standardized information management system that integrates beneficiary information across different database systems and identifies beneficiaries uniquely and strengthening the government's capacity to improve the delivery of cash transfer programs.	2,220,000	Mar-11	Oct-14
	Timor Leste—Strengthening Social Safety Nets Institutions strengthened the delivery of social assistance, focused on a diagnosis of existing payments systems and policy options for feasible alternative systems; a program to strengthen the MIS in the Ministry of Social Solidarity to facilitate monitoring and evaluation and to enhance oversight of the social protection system; and a review of related institutional issues.	87,811	Jan-10	Apr-12
SHARING KNOWLEDGE	Implementing Social Protection Programs—Asia Learning Forum focused on the implementation of social protection programs, aiming to enhance low-income countries' capacity to support the poor and respond to shocks.	450,000	Dec-11	May-13

THEME		FUNDING AMOUNT (US\$)	START DATE	CLOSING DATE
LATIN AMERICA AND CARRIBEAN				
BUILDING SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEMS	Honduras—Strengthening Social Protection provided technical assistance to the development of a targeting mechanism for subsidies, a Unique Registry of Beneficiaries and a review of existing social protection programs to see how these can be rationalized and free up resources for the conditional cash transfer program under Bono 10,000.	72,566	Jan-10	Jun-12
	Nicaragua—Expansion of the Family and Community Based Social Welfare Model with Cash Transfers aims to improve the well-being of extremely poor families with children by supporting expansion of a model program for family and community-based social welfare and cash transfers; and to strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of the Family, Youth, and Children to implement the model.	2,750,000	Dec-11	Apr-13
	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS)—Enhanced Crisis Resilience Project aims to strengthen the secretariat's capacity to support and guide national crisis responses on social protection by promoting evidence-based policy making.	500,000	Dec-11	Jun-13
SHARING KNOWLEDGE	Listening to LAC—Mobile Phones as Instruments for Rigorous Surveys tested use of a low-cost, quick method of gathering data in Latin America and the Caribbean to give timely information on poor and vulnerable populations. Near-real-time data would be valuable at any time but especially during a shock or crisis or its immediate aftermath, enabling faster diagnoses of poverty and vulnerability and raising warnings for policymakers and donor institutions so they can respond more effectively.	239,106	Apr-10	Jun-12
	Nicaragua—Crisis Module for the Nicaraguan Labor Force Survey was expected to add a crisis module to the permanent labor force survey to provide frequent indicators of shocks to households. The activity could not be initiated because of delays in obtaining the household data.	0	—	—
CRISIS RESPONSE	Gender-Based Violence in Post-Earthquake Haiti worked with two partner organizations in five camps for internally displaced persons to provide support to survivors of sexual and gender-based violence and prevent further abuse.	580,951	Sep-11	Sep-12
	Haiti—Household Development Agent Pilot aims to improve family health and nutrition practices and strengthen capacity to deliver social services directly to families in the pilot area. The pilot will provide nutrition and health-related education to beneficiary families and improve their awareness of available social programs and services; provide basic commodities and select services directly to the families; and strengthen management and monitoring of families' access to social services.	3,377,484	Apr-10	Dec-14
	Haiti—Nutrition Security and Social Safety Nets improved the capacity and effectiveness of nutrition-related safety net programs and addresses acute and chronic malnutrition.	90,345	Nov-10	Jun-12
	Honduras—Improving Nutritional Monitoring and Targeted Response to the Global Crisis enabled the government to timely detect crises-affected locations, target those most in need, as well as ensuring nutrition monitoring in areas with high incidence of malnutrition.	1,200,000	Dec-11	Jun-13
	Honduras, Nicaragua, and Haiti—Education Sector Rapid Response and Protection of Youth Vulnerable to Violence and Conflict helps countries experiencing a violence and crime crisis to turn knowledge on youth and organized violence into data for policy setting, planning, and program design to provide timely protection for youth.	379,000	Nov-11	Mar-13
	Improving Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Countries Responses to Protect the Nutritional Status of the Poorest and Most Vulnerable in Times of Crises and Emergencies supported the development of a toolkit that offers policymakers and program administrators in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) cost-effective tools that can protect children and their mothers from malnutrition.	256,000	Jul-11	Feb-13

THEME		FUNDING AMOUNT (US\$)	START DATE	CLOSING DATE
MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA				
BUILDING SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEMS	Djibouti—Employment for the Poor Project supported the scale-up and improved the design and effectiveness of the Djibouti Social Development Agency workfare program which combine nutrition interventions and employment to feed into the overall health and welfare of the country.	173,593	Jan-10	Apr-12
SHARING KNOWLEDGE	Lessons from Successful Education Administration under Difficult Circumstances captured lessons from the success of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees, which provides education to Palestinian students in the Middle East. A common data tool has been developed, and the lessons will be disseminated to benefit schools for the displaced and refugees across the globe.	398,720	Nov-10	Nov-12
CRISIS RESPONSE	Yemen—Targeted Delivery of Early Childhood Nutrition Interventions. Though the pilot project was cancelled due to prevailing security concerns in Yemen, the grant supported a short household survey to monitor the economic and social impact of instability, including food security; further design work on a conditional cash-transfer program reflecting lessons from the ongoing program and the current situation; and technical assistance for design of an impact evaluation for the pilot and plans to scale up.	215,000	Oct-10	Dec-12
SOUTH ASIA				
BUILDING SOCIAL PROTECTION SYSTEMS	Afghanistan—Results-Oriented Approach in the Pro-Poor Program Design and Implementation aims to strengthen the institutional capacity to monitor and evaluate government programs and of mechanisms to deliver benefits, to improve poverty-oriented interventions. Recipient-executed components were dropped due to legal obstacles on the client side. The grant focuses on improving the sustainability of the social protection programs' solutions and synergies with other initiatives in the country, and tracking, documenting and disseminating the results of the Afghanistan Pensions and Safety Nets pilot project.	200,000	Nov-11	Jun-14
	Bangladesh—Improving the Payment and Monitoring System for the Employment Generation Program for the Poorest aims to make the beneficiary payment and record keeping mechanisms for the Employment Generation Program for the Poorest more efficient.	1,098,465	Jun-11	Dec-13
	Bangladesh—Piloting Conditional Cash Transfers for Human Development through Local Governments is piloting new and smart ways of delivering social safety nets, placing stepping stones for thousands of young people to a more prosperous life and helping their parents safeguard against shocks.	2,987,400	Sep-10	Dec-13
	India—Broadening the Urban Safety Net Dialogue provided support to stream-lining and improving the effectiveness of urban safety nets in New Delhi. Support has focused on the Government of the National Capital Territory of Delhi and its Mission Convergence initiative.	99,048	Mar-10	Feb-12
	Maldives—Building a Common Platform for Identification of the Poor assisted the government in designing and implementing a common platform for identification of the poor. Through a very collaborative engagement with the Government, the activity supported the design of the targeting methodology and systems to be used under the additional financing approved for the Maldives Pensions and Social Protection Project.	194,310	Jan-10	Aug-12
	Nepal—Strengthening Safety Nets in Nepal: Piloting Targeted Conditional Cash Transfers aims to improve the delivery of conditional cash transfers in pilot districts through technical assistance and capacity building to the Ministry of Local Development.	2,227,650	Dec-10	Jun-14
	Pakistan—Financial Inclusion and Literacy Outcomes of Cash Transfers through the Banking System supported an assessment that has helped the government better understand how the cash transfer programs work for the beneficiaries, how these beneficiaries manage cash grants and their perceptions around payment systems and banking. The results are being used by implementing agencies and participating financial institutions in their planning and ensuring efficient and effective delivery of the cash grants through technology-based payments.	810,000	May-11	May-13

THEME		FUNDING AMOUNT (US\$)	START DATE	CLOSING DATE
	Sri Lanka—Skills Development for Unemployed Youth examined the impact of the economic crisis on vulnerable groups in the formal and informal labor markets. The Grant provided the government with analysis of critical policy issues on skills development, including policies targeted towards helping vulnerable groups, and engaged policymakers in an informed dialogue on options for skills development strategies that lead to employment creation and economic growth.	238,800	Jun-11	Sep-12
	Sri Lanka—Strengthening Targeting, Monitoring, and Evaluation of Safety Nets finances the scaling up and evaluation of an improved targeting and MIS system that is being developed for the Samurdhi safety net program. The goal is to improve the overall institutional capacity of Samurdhi to improve identification of beneficiaries and monitor and evaluate the program's performance.	200,000	Jun-10	Jun-13
CRISIS RESPONSE	India—Critical Analysis of the Institutional Arrangements for Improving Nutrition Outcomes analyzed existing institutional arrangements for organizing, coordinating, and delivering nutrition services in India and provided recommendations for strengthening them.	99,640	Feb-10	May-12
	Maldives—Technical Assistance to the National Social Protection Agency on the National Health Insurance Scheme aims to strengthen the capacity of National Social Protection Agency to improve the design of the Madhana, the country's nascent social health insurance system and to build a robust monitoring and evaluation system that enhances the system's efficiency and effectiveness.	60,000	May-11	Jun-13
	Pakistan—Health Shocks to the Poor aims to increase the resilience of the population against health shocks caused by natural disasters. The work supported the design of two pilots for the poor districts in the flood prone area of Punjab and the findings are to options to improve the service delivery and response mechanisms for disasters revealed important facts regarding the government response to the floods as well as a relook into the state of service delivery in the flood affected areas.	400,000	Jan-12	Mar-13
GLOBAL				
SHARING KNOWLEDGE	Public Works Learning Forum—Social Protection South-South Learning Forum 2010 , organized and held in June 2010, in Arusha, Tanzania, provided opportunities to the more than 220 delegates from 40 low- and middle-income countries to exchange knowledge and take part in cross-country learning on the design and implementation of public works programs as safety net interventions.	515,134	Feb-10	Dec-11
	South-South Learning Forum—Building Resilient Safety Nets in Low Income Countries and Fragile States focused specifically on promoting resilient safety nets, following the recent wave of food, fuel, and financial crises and natural disasters. The event, completed in June 2011, helped to shape social protection & learning sector approach to South-South exchange, as a continuously evolving learning and training tool.	757,753	Nov-10	Nov-12
	South-South Learning Forum—Labor Market Policy Response to the Global Jobs Crisis focused on labor and social protection policies during the recent economic crisis and recovery to bolster effective policymaking on labor markets and social protection in response to economic crises.	450,000	Nov-11	Jan-13
	Resilience in the Face of Crisis—Multi-Sector Actions to Achieve Nutrition Results supported the development, production, and dissemination of tools and materials to guide policymakers and implementers of programs on nutrition around the world on how to address undernutrition from a multi-sector perspective to achieve more sustainable and rapid improvements in maternal and child undernutrition.	250,000	Jan-11	Jun-13
	Development of a Global Action Plan for Scaling-up Nutrition sought to influence political leaders at global and country levels and to contribute towards a common agenda and platform for action among those engaged in scaling-up nutrition investments.	39,690	Feb-10	Dec-10

THEME		FUNDING AMOUNT (US\$)	START DATE	CLOSING DATE
	Food Crisis Monitoring System aims to develop a simple framework that defines, identifies, and monitors food security crises at the national level caused by shocks and factors that are not attributed to a given country. The framework will categorize each IDA country's exposure to shocks and its capacity to react.	74,339	Nov-11	Nov-12
	Monitoring the Health Outcomes and Financial Vulnerability of the Poorest sought to enhance access to health services and reduce financial vulnerability to health shocks by training policymakers and researchers in analysis of financial protection and equity, using ADePT Health software, and by producing country-specific reports on financial protection, vulnerability, and equity in the health sector.	160,535	Apr-10	Sep-11
	Policy Levers to Protect Health and Enhance Financial Protection aims to protect access to health services and reduce household financial vulnerability in times of crisis by improving the capacity of governments, the World Bank, and the international community to monitor the health outcomes of the poor and their vulnerability to health shocks, and also to design health systems and policies more effectively to provide protection during future crises.	450,000	Aug-11	Jun-13
	Preparing Social Protection Systems for Natural Disasters and Climate Change aims to enhance the capacity of officials and practitioners in client countries and World Bank task teams to improve safety net programs so they respond more effectively to natural disasters and the impact of climate change. The activity seeks to improve design and implementation of safety nets systems for better ex-ante risk reduction and ex-post responses to natural disasters and climate-related shocks.	375,000	Jul-11	Jun-13
	Development of the ADePT Crisis Module supports the application of the ADePT software platform to crisis diagnostics and the design of policies for crisis prevention.	249,263	Mar-11	Sep-12
	Impact of Financial Crises on Children and Youth—Protecting Human Capital of Future Generations shed light on the effect of systemic shocks on the acquisition and use of human capital among children and youth and identifies evidence-based crisis responses to protect their well-being during systemic shocks.	241,127	Dec-10	Jun-12
	The Health Sector and the Poor in a Financial Crises—Identifying and Managing Risks ensures that important operational lessons are captured and shared with the global health community through two reports as well as established and innovative World Bank Institute capacity-building and knowledge-sharing instruments.	450,000	Nov-11	Jun-13
	Development of a Management Information System for Social Protection aims to develop a high-quality, reliable client registry system to allow for the timely design and delivery of systems of social protection. The MIS also will allow the World Bank and its clients to deploy systems of social protection that could be scaled and adapted to changing conditions or crises.	350,000	Nov-11	Aug-13
		53,903,501		

Associated IDA Projects

Country	Grant Name	RSR Amount US\$	IDA Amount	Project ID	Project Name	Status of IDA Project	IDA Project Objective
AFRICA REGION							
Angola, Benin, Lesotho, Mali, Tanzania, Zambia	Scaling up Cash Transfers in Sub-Saharan Africa	0.40	46	P117764	Benin—Decentralized Community Driven Services	Approved	Improve access to decentralized basic social services and to mainstream the community-driven development approach for such services.
			70	P127328	Mali—Emergency Safety Nets Project	Approved	Establish sustainable social safety net system and scale up programs that increase income and consumption of poor and vulnerable households through cash transfers and short term employment
			150	P133575	Zambia Productive Safety Nets	Pipeline FY14	TBD
Cote d'Ivoire	Assessing the Impact of Crisis on Human Development	0.30	50	P143332	Productive Social Safety Net	Pipeline FY14	Set the foundations of an effective and productive type of safety net system capable of responding to the country's needs both in normal times and during times of crisis
Burkina Faso	Strengthening Safety Net Response to Crises	0.50	30	P124015	Burkina Faso Social safety Net Project	Pipeline FY14	Provide income support to poor and vulnerable groups and to lay the foundations for a basic safety net system
Cameroon	Strengthening Safety Net Response to Crises	0.55	50	P128534	Cameroon Social Safety Nets	Approved	Support the establishment of a basic national safety net system including piloting targeted cash transfers and public works programs for the poorest and most vulnerable people
Ethiopia	Strengthening the Nutrition Information and Early Warning System in Ethiopia	1.00	30	P106228	Ethiopia Nutrition	Approved	Improve child and maternal care behavior and increase utilization of key micronutrients in order to contribute to nutritional status of vulnerable groups
Ghana	Cash Transfers: Support to a Common Targeting System	0.18	89	P115247	Social Opportunities Project	Approved	Improve targeting in social protection spending, increase access to conditional cash transfers nationwide, increase access to employment and cash-earning opportunities for the rural poor during the agricultural off-season, and improve economic and social infrastructure in target districts
Gambia, The	The Gambia Rapid Response Nutrition Security Improvement Project	3.16	3	P143650	Maternal and Child Nutrition and Health Results Project	Pipeline FY14	Increase the coverage of community-based nutrition and primary health care services
Guinea	Social Safety Nets in Times of Crisis	0.40	25	P123900	Productive Social Safety Net Project	Approved	Provide income support to vulnerable groups and to lay the foundations of a social safety net strategy by testing some of the building blocks necessary for a larger system
Kenya	Social Protection Interventions	0.15	250	P131305	National Integrated Safety Net Program (P4R)	Pipeline FY14	Establish an effective national safety net for poor and vulnerable households
	Support to the Government of Kenya for Social Protection Programming	1.29	50	P111545	Kenya Cash Transfer for Orphans and Vulnerable Children	Approved	Increase social safety net access for extremely poor Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) households, through an effective and efficient expansion of the CT-OVC Program

Country	Grant Name	RSR Amount US\$	IDA Amount	Project ID	Project Name	Status of IDA Project	IDA Project Objective
Kenya	Support to the Internship Program of the Kenya Private Sector Alliance	0.98	60	P111546	Youth Empowerment Project	Approved	Support the Government of Kenya's efforts to increase access to youth-targeted temporary employment programs and to improve youth employability
Liberia	Vulnerable Youth: Enhancing Economic and Social Resilience	0.24	16	P121686	Youth, Employment, Skills Project	Approved	Expand access of poor and young Liberians to temporary employment programs and to improve youth employability
	Development of a Crisis Response Social Protection Strategy and Capacity	0.29	10	P127317	Poverty Reduction Strategy Credit I	Pipeline FY13	Support the broadening of reforms to include economic transformation and human development in the context of the implementation of the Government's second Poverty Reduction Strategy
Madagascar	Impacts of the Crisis on Health, Nutrition, and Population	0.40	65	P131945	Emergency Support to Critical Education, Health and Nutrition Services Project	Approved	Preserve critical education, health and nutrition service delivery in targeted vulnerable areas
	Development of Tools to Monitor and Mitigate the Effect of Crises on Out-of-School Children	0.45					
Mozambique	Piloting a Public Works Program in Mozambique	2.16	50	P129524	Social Safety Net project	Approved	Provide temporary income support to extremely poor households and to put in place the building blocks of a social safety net system
Nigeria	Strengthening Social Safety Net	0.40	300	P126964	Youth Employment & Social Support Operation	Approved	Increase access of the poor to youth employment opportunities, social services, and strengthened safety net systems in participating states
Rwanda	Support for Strengthening Rwandan Social Safety Nets	0.07	40	P126877	Support to Social Protection System	Approved	Support the Government's efforts to consolidate, enhance efficiency and effectiveness, and expand coverage of its social protection system
	Technical Assistance and Capacity Building to the Vision 2020 Umurenge Program (VUP)	2.12	6	P122157	Third Community Living Standards Grant	Approved	Support the government's social protection and health reforms designed to reduce extreme poverty
			50	P131666	Rwanda Second Support to Social Protection System	Approved	Support the Government's efforts to consolidate, enhance efficiency and effectiveness, and expand coverage of its social protection system
Senegal	Cash Transfers and Targeting in Senegal	0.29	50	P133597	Senegal Safety Net operation	Pipeline FY14	Assist the Government develop building blocks of an efficient safety net system
Sierra Leone	Safety Net Support	0.30	40	P143588	Sierra Leone Safety Nets Project	Pipeline FY14	Create a comprehensive, efficient, well targeted productive safety net system for the poor and vulnerable

Country	Grant Name	RSR Amount US\$	IDA Amount	Project ID	Project Name	Status of IDA Project	IDA Project Objective
Tanzania	Enhancing Social Protection for the Most Vulnerable Children and Poor Elderly	0.63	285	P124045	Tanzania Productive Social Safety Net (plus AF)	Approved	Create a comprehensive, efficient, well-targeted productive social safety net system for the poor and vulnerable section of the Tanzanian population.
Togo	Public Works in Fragile Countries: Experience of a Cash for Work Program in Togo and Liberia	0.09	9	P121067	Community Development Project Additional Financing	Approved	Provide selected poor communities with improved basic socio-economic infrastructures, income-generating and labor intensive activities and access to food.
	Support to SSN Development in Togo	0.22	14	P127200	Community Development and Safety Nets	Approved	Provide poor communities with greater access to basic socio-economic infrastructures and social safety nets.
	Promotion of Innovative Crisis Response Social Protection Measures	0.28					
EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC							
Mongolia	M&E For Mongolia Social Welfare Programs	0.07	12	P119825	Mongolia Multi-Sectoral Technical Assistance Project	Approved	Strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Social Welfare and Labor to improve the efficacy of social expenditure by designing and implementing a targeted poverty benefit.
Papua New Guinea	Urban Youth Employment Project— Ensuring Effective Evaluation and Social Accountability	0.30	16	P114042	Urban Youth Employment Project	Approved	Provide urban youth with income from temporary employment opportunities and to increase their employability.
EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA							
Albania	Albania Social Safety Nets TA	0.05		P122233	Social Assistance Modernization Project	Approved	Support Albania’s implementation of reforms to improve the equity and efficiency of its social assistance programs.
	Albania received IBRD Loans			P116937	Social Sector Reform Development Policy Loan	Approved	Support policy changes to improve the effectiveness of social safety nets.
Kyrgyz Republic	Rapid Assistance to Improve Social Safety Nets in the Face of Energy Tariff Reforms	0.06	30	P125425	Economic Recovery Support Operation	Approved	Safeguard social assistance to the poor and to conflict affected families in the face of fiscal pressures and improve targeting.
	Targeted Social Assistance Program for Rapid Expansion, Improved Administration and Better Coverage	0.26	17	P126278	Second Health and Social Protection Project	Approved	Improve health outcomes in four health priority areas in support of the National Health Reform Program 2012–2016; and enable the Government’s efforts to enhance effectiveness and targeting performance of social assistance and services.

Country	Grant Name	RSR Amount US\$	IDA Amount	Project ID	Project Name	Status of IDA Project	IDA Project Objective
Tajikistan	Targeting and Payment of Social Assistance to the Poor	2.72	3	P122039	Social Safety Net Strengthening Project	Approved	Improve the capacity of the government to plan, monitor, and manage social assistance for the poor through the development of a national registry of social protection and the provision of training, equipment and related items for improving said capacity.
	Protecting and Promoting Access to Maternal and Neonatal Health Services	0.40	15	P126130	Tajikistan Health Services Improvement Project	Pipeline FY14	Contribute to the improvement of the coverage and quality of basic Primary Health Care services in rural health facilities in selected regions.
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN							
Haiti	Household Development Agent Pilot Project	3.36	50	P123706	Improving Maternal and Child Health through Integrated Social Services	Approved	Increase the access and use of maternal and child health, nutrition and other social services.
Honduras	Strengthening Social Protection	0.07	40	P115592	Social Protection	Approved	Support the Government's efforts to build an improved social protection system mainly by strengthening institutional capacity to design and implement a new Conditional Cash Transfer (CCT) program, the Bono 10,000 Program.
	Improving Nutrition Monitoring and Targeted Response to Global Crisis Project	1.20	20	P126158	Additional Finance for Nutrition and Social Protection	Approved	Improve Honduras' social safety net for children and youth by strengthening the country's capacity to administer social assistance programs; improving nutritional and health status of young children, and increasing employability of at-risk youth by piloting a Employment program.
Nicaragua	Expansion of the Family and Community Based Social Welfare Model with Cash Transfers	2.75	20	P121779	Nicaragua Social Protection	Approved	Improve the basic welfare of extremely poor beneficiary families with children; strengthen the capacity of MIFAN to implement the family and community-based social welfare Model; and promote pre-school and primary school attendance through the provision of school lunches.
MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA							
Djibouti	Employment for the Poor TA	0.17	5	P130328	Crisis Response—Social Safety Net Project	Approved	Support the provision of short-term employment opportunities in community-based labor-intensive works for the poor and vulnerable; and support the improvement of nutrition practices among participating households.
SOUTH ASIA							
Bangladesh	Piloting Cash Transfers for Human Development through Local Governments	2.99	500	P132634	Bangladesh Safety Net Systems for the Poorest Project	Pipeline FY13	Improve the equity, efficiency, and transparency of key social safety net programs and finance short-term employment to enable the poorest households to better cope with poverty and vulnerability.
	Improving Payment and Monitoring System for Employment Generation Program for the Poorest	1.09	150	P118701	Employment Generation Program for the Poorest	Approved	Provide short-term employment on community sub-projects to enable households to better cope with vulnerability, while strengthening program implementation.

Country	Grant Name	RSR Amount US\$	IDA Amount	Project ID	Project Name	Status of IDA Project	IDA Project Objective
India	Institutional Arrangements for Nutrition - India	0.10	106	P121731	Integrated Child Development Services - Systems Strengthening & Nutrition Improvement Program	Approved	Improve nutritional outcomes of children in India, strengthen the policy framework, systems and capacities, and facilitate community engagement, and ensure greater focus on children under three.
Afghanistan	Afghanistan: Results-Oriented Approach in the Pro-Poor Program Design and Implementation	0.20	8	P113421	AF: Pension Admin and Safety Net	Approved	Improve the administration of the public pension schemes; and pilot a modest social safety net program as a first step to developing a sustainable approach to safety nets in the country.
Maldives	Targeting the Poor in the Maldives	0.19	12	P125700	Pension and Social Protection Additional Financing	Approved	Support the implementation of the National Pension Act, to strengthen institutional capacity of key agencies responsible for implementing the National Pension Act, and to develop the processes and platforms required for the delivery of social protection programs.
Maldives	TA to the National Health Insurance Scheme (Madhana) in Maldives	0.06					
Pakistan	Protecting Pakistan's Poor Against Health Shocks	0.40	100	P123394	Punjab Health Sector Reform Project	Pipeline FY13	Support the implementation of the Health Sector Strategy, by focusing on improving the coverage and utilizing quality essential health services, particularly in the low performing districts of Punjab.
Pakistan	Financial Inclusion and Literacy Outcomes of Cash Transfers through the Banking System	0.81	60	P103160	Social Safety Net TA	Approved	Support the expansion and strengthen the administration and performance of the country's safety net with particular focus on the BISP program as the national safety net platform.
Sri Lanka	Sri Lanka Skills Development for Unemployed Youth	0.24	100	P132698	Skills Development Project	Pipeline FY14	Support the Government of Sri Lanka to improve the quality and relevance of the skills development sector.
Total IDA		34.28	3,103				



2013 RSR-MDTF and RSRC Financial Report

Status of Contributions and Total Receipts

The RSR program includes two trust fund programs, the RSR Multi-Donor Trust Fund (RSR-MDTF) and the RSR Catalyst Trust Fund (RSRC), which closed on June 30, 2012.

As of April 30, 2013, cumulative contributions to a total of US\$ 71.98 million was received against the RSR-MDTF, and distributed as follows: US\$ 50 million from the Russian Federation, NOK 50 million (equivalent to US\$ 8.57 million) from Norway, SEK 70 from Sweden (equivalent to US\$ 10.43 million) and AUD 2.9 million from Australia (equivalent to US\$ 2.97 million). These contributions represent the total amounts specified in the countersigned Administrative Agreements between the donors, IBRD and IDA. Two donors joined the RSR-MDTF since the Progress Report of 2012, Australia and Sweden. As a result, the total contributions increased by 23 percent. Table 1 summarizes the cash contributions by donor and year received.

Table 1: Cash Contributions to MDTF by Donor and Year Received (US\$ million)

Donor	2013	2012	2011	2010	Total
Russian Federation-Ministry of Finance	0.00	15.00	15.00	20.00	50.00
Norway-Ministry of Foreign Affairs	0.00	0.00	0.00	8.57	8.57
Australia-Australian Agency for International Development	0.00	2.97	0.00	0.00	2.97
Sweden-Swedish International Development Agency	10.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	10.43
Total Receipts	10.43	17.97	15.00	28.57	71.98

Source: RSR Management Team / World Bank (2013).

The United Kingdom represented by the Department for International Development (DfID) is the sole contributor to the RSRC. A total contribution paid-in of GBP 2 million (equivalent to US\$ 3.24 million) was received against the trust fund program. The funds supported the preparation of key analytical work in 30 countries focused on assessing existing programs, technical assistance to improve components of existing systems, and building the capacity of implementing teams.

Table 2: Regional Allocation of RSRC (US\$ million)

Regions	Number of Grants	Grant Amounts
Sub-Sahara Africa	10	1,315,475
East Asia and Pacific	2	155,598
Europe and Central Asia	3	156,313
Latin America and Caribbean	2	162,910
Middle East and North Africa	1	173,593
South Asia Region	4	279,369
Global*	4	751,797
Total	26	2,995,056

Source: RSR Management Team / World Bank (2013).

Note: * Includes the coordination grant.

The RSR-MDTF and RSRC earned investment income since the inception of the two trust fund programs. The income is used for the same purposes as the contribution funds, as specified in the Trust Fund Administrative Agreements. At present, the RSR-MDTF is valued at US\$ 72.77 million (US\$ 71.98 million in donor deposits, plus US\$ 0.79 million of investment income). The trust fund administrative fee for both trust fund programs represents the cost of administration and other expenses, which are in accordance with the terms of the Administrative Agreements. Table 3 presents the financial summary, which includes information on the status of donor contributions, investment income, grant commitments and disbursements, in addition to the funds available for allocation against the approved fifth round of calls for proposals.

Table 3: RSR-MDTF and RSRC Contribution Paid-in and Financial Summary¹
As of April 30, 2013 (US\$ million)

		RSR MDTF	RSRC	Total
a.	Receipts			
	Cash Contribution	a/ 71.98	3.24	75.22
	Investment Income	b/ 0.29	0.02	0.81
	Total Receipts	72.77	3.25	76.02
b.	Grant Amount/Allocation	c/ 54.55	3.00	57.55
c.	Non project disbursements			
	Refunds	d/	0.07	0.07
	Administrative Fee	e/ 0.72	0.16	0.88
	Available Balance	f/ 17.50	—	17.50
d.	Activity Disbursements and Commitments			
	Disbursements	g/ 41.39	2.99	44.38
	Commitments	h/ 5.94	—	5.94
	Total Disbursements and Commitments	47.33	2.99	50.32

Note:

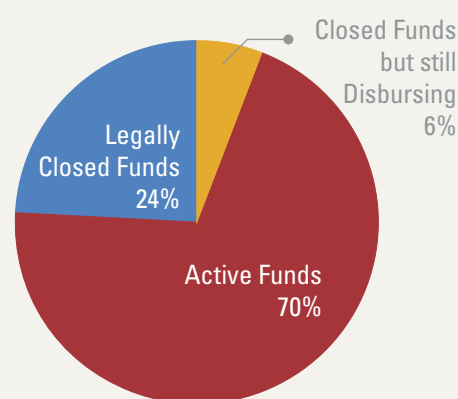
- a/ Any portion of a Contribution made in the form of cash.
b/ Returns on cash and investments allocated to the Trust Fund, and earned between November 2009 and April 2013.
c/ The setting aside of funds for specific agreed activities/projects in accordance with the decision-making process specified in the Administrative Agreement.
d/ Unspent funds from the RSRC program were automatically transferred in the Donor Bank Account (DBA).
e/ Administrative fee represents the cost of administration and other expenses, which are in accordance with the terms of the Administrative Agreements.
f/ Available balance represents funds available for new allocation after subtracting total grant amount and administrative fee. Round 5 for the call for proposals was launched in March 2013, and the approved grant amounts will be reflected in 2014 reporting period.
g/ Disbursements represent the cash payment to a recipient or vendor based on a commitment by the Bank. The Bank provides oversight and supervision over implementation.
h/ Commitments represent the obligation of the Trust Fund to provide funds. Commitments are recorded in the full amounts in the system, pending disbursement against the allocated goods and services.

Source: RSR Management Team / World Bank (2013).

Since the inception of the RSR-MDTF in late 2009, four rounds of calls for proposals have been launched, covering activities and projects in the regions and globally. Chart 1 shows the current status of the RSR-MDTF program. All activities under the RSRC are now legally closed.

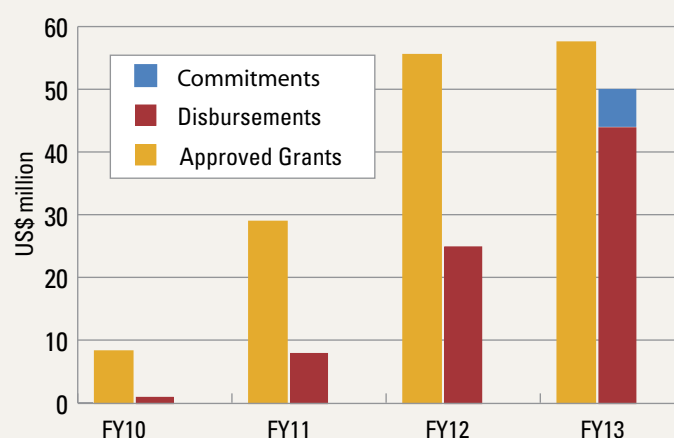
Disbursements under the RSR program activities have increased significantly since December 2009. As shown in Figure 1, 77 percent of the funds allocated to activities have been disbursed to-date and another 10 percent is contractually committed.

Chart 1: RSR-MDTF Program Status



Source: RSR Management Team / World Bank (2013).

Figure 1: RSR Program Allocations and Disbursements
As of April 30, 2013



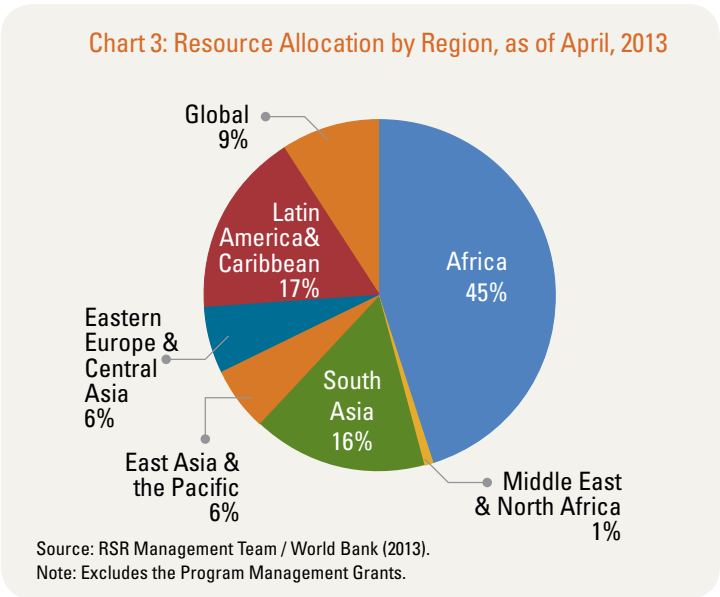
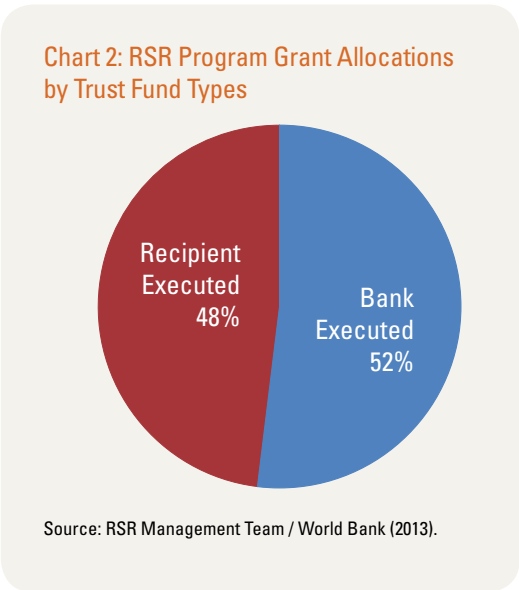
Source: RSR Management Team / World Bank (2013).

RSR Program Status of Grant Allocations

The RSR-MDTF and RSRC fund two main types of grants as indicated in Chart 2. Recipient Executed Trust Funds (RETFs) are funds that the Bank passes on to a recipient, for which the Bank plays an operational role. Bank Executed Trust Funds (BETFs) finance activities, such as, capacity building and technical assistance that are implemented by the Bank.

The RSR Program funds a total of 80 activities implemented in 40 countries.

As shown in Chart 3, Africa receives the largest share of allocations among all the regions, representing 45 percent of the RSR-MDTF and RSRC combined portfolio, covering 25 countries and funding 34 activities.



¹ In accordance with the Trust Fund Administrative Agreement, “the World Bank shall furnish to the Donor current financial information relating to receipts, disbursements and fund balance with respect to the Contributions via the World Bank’s Trust Funds Donor Center secure website. The Bank shall provide to the Donors an annual single audit reporting, within 6 months following the end of the each Bank fiscal year, which starts on July 1 and ends on June 30 of each year.” Additional information on accounting and financial reporting is included in the Administrative Agreement, Annex 2, paragraph 6.



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